

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
GRAND LODGE  
OF  
*Ancient Free & Accepted Masons*  
OF MINNESOTA,  
AT ITS  
*TWENTY-SIXTH GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION*  
IN THE CITY OF ST. PAUL,

JANUARY 14TH AND 15TH, A. D. 1879, A. L. 5879.

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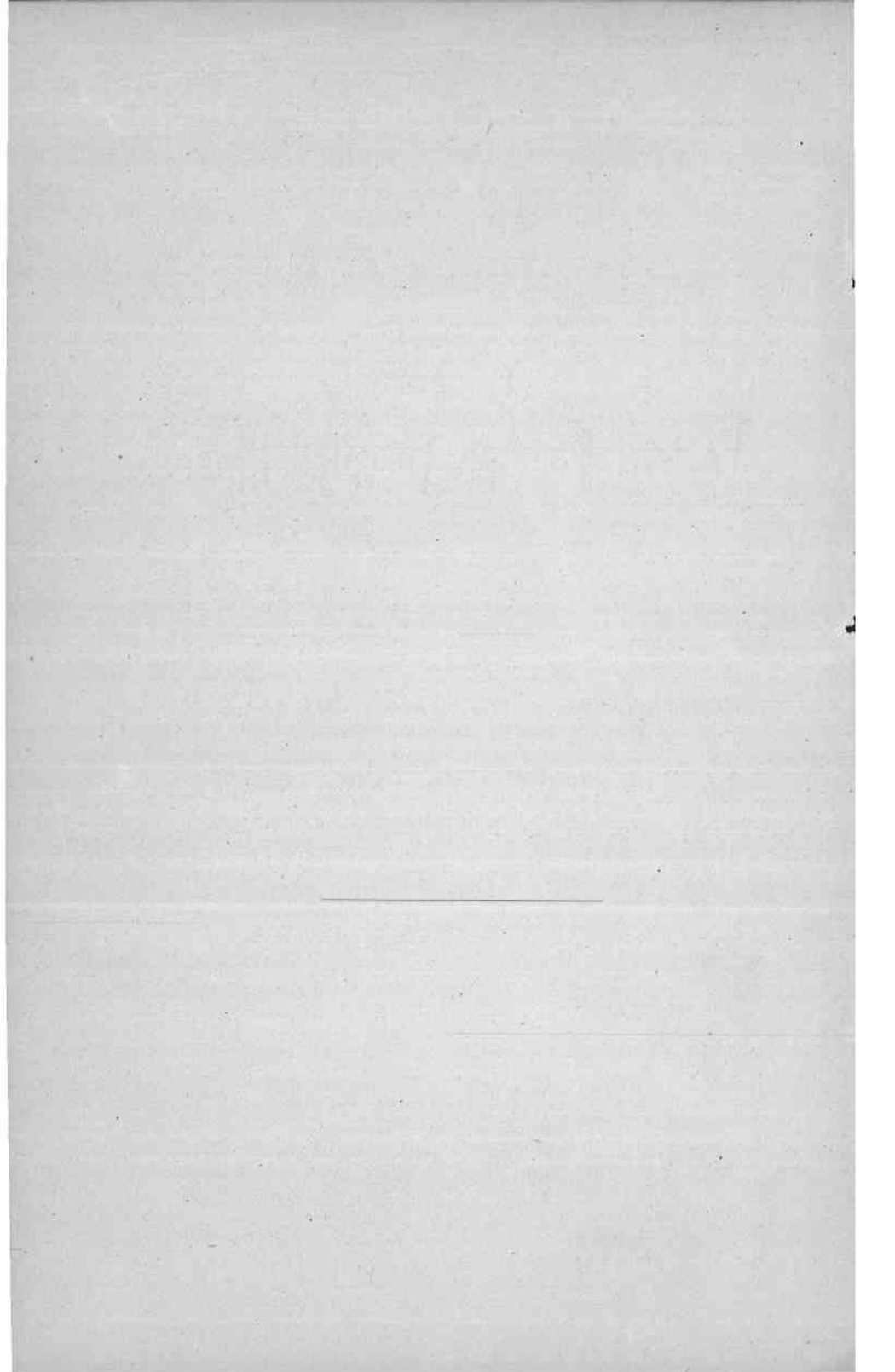
ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL THE LODGES.

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M. W. HENRY R. WELLS, G. M., PRESTON.  
R. W. A. T. C. PIERSON, G. S., SAINT PAUL.

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1879.



# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

### FIRST DAY.

In pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge convened at Masonic Hall, St. Paul, on Tuesday, January 14, 1879, at 12 o'clock, M.

The Grand Master, assisted by the following officers, opened a lodge of Master Masons, preparatory to the opening of the Grand Lodge :

#### GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. E. W. DURANT.....	Grand Master.
R. W. H. R. WELLS.....	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. C. H. BENTON.....	Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. C. N. DANIELS.....	Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. J. H. THOMPSON.....	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. A. T. C. PIERSON.....	Grand Secretary.
R. W. G. A. CAMP.....	Grand Orator.
R. W. G. H. DAVIS.....	Grand Chaplain.
R. W. A. MCKENZIE.....	Grand Standard Bearer.
R. W. BENJ. L. PERRY.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
R. W. G. A. BLAIR.....	Grand Pursuivant.
R. W. J. Q. A. BRADEN.....	Grand Senior Steward.
R. W. I. P. DUFFEE.....	Grand Junior Steward.
R. W. HARRY BURNINGHAM.....	Grand Tyler.

## PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. A. T. C. PIERSON.....	Past Grand Master.
M. W. C. W. NASH.....	Past Grand Master.
M. W. G. B. COOLEY.....	Past Grand Master.
R. W. A. GOODRICH.....	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. D. B. LOOMIS.....	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. R. A. JONES.....	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. J. N. CASTLE.....	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. S. E. ADAMS.....	Past Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. S. R. MERRELL.....	Past Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. EDGAR NASH.....	Past Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. L. Z. ROGERS.....	Past Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. WM. LEE.....	Past Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. E. P. BARNUM.....	Past Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. A. J. EDGERTON.....	Past Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. C. O. BALL.....	Past Junior Grand Warden.

Representatives of one hundred and twelve lodges responded to the call of the roll.

There being a constitutional number of lodges represented, the Grand Master proceeded to open the Grand Lodge of Minnesota in AMPLE FORM.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

## COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The Grand Master appointed the brothers Grand Secretary, Rudolph Lehmicke (1) and Albert Marden, (98) a Committee on Credentials.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment for half an hour, on resuming labor, the committee reported as follows, which was adopted, and the committee continued:

*To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:*

The Committee on Credentials respectfully report, that in addition to Grand and Past Grand Officers, who answered to the call of the roll, they find that the subordinate lodges are represented as follows:

## REPRESENTATIVES.

St. John's, No. 1.....	John A. Johnson, W. M.
	Wm. F. Gorrie, S. W.
	R. Lehmicke, proxy for J. W.
Cataract, No. 2.....	James S. Lane, W. M.
	B. F. Nelson, J. W.



St. Paul, No. 3.....	Smith D. Downs, W. M. William R. Johnson, S. W. Henry Brand, J. W.
Hennepin, No. 4.....	Ed. McDermot, proxy for W. M. W. A. Miller, S. W. Cyrus Rothschild, J. W.
Ancient Landmark, No. 5.....	Orville G. Miller, W. M. A. P. Swanstrom, S. W. E. H. Milham, J. W.
Dakota, No. 7.....	R. J. Marvin, proxy for W. M. Irving Todd, S. W.
Red Wing, No. 8.....	Lucius A. Hancock, W. M. Dwight M. Baldwin, proxy for J. W.
Faribault, No. 9.....	Geo. M. Andrews, S. W.
Mantorville, No. 11.....	Ambrose LaDue, W. M.
Mankato, No. 12.....	Clark Keysor, proxy for W. M.
Wapahasa, No. 14.....	Not represented.
Monticello, No. 16.....	Henry Kreis, W. M.
Hokah, No. 17.....	Herman H. Covert, W. M.
Winona, No. 18.....	W. H. Bennett, S. W.
Minneapolis, No. 19.....	John H. Noble, W. M.
Caledonia, No. 20.....	Eugene W. Trask, J. W.
Rochester, No. 21.....	W. G. Bartley, W. M.
Pleasant Grove, No. 22.....	O. H. Page, W. M. George Z. Logan, S. W.
North Star, No. 23.....	George H. Davis, W. M.
Wilton, No. 24.....	William H. Gillis, W. M. J. A. Canfield, S. W. H. C. Woodbury, proxy for J. W.
Western Star, No. 26.....	James F. Reppy, W. M.
Blue Earth Valley, No. 27.....	Not represented.
Clearwater, No. 28.....	Thos. Tollington, proxy for W. M.
Morning Star, No. 29.....	J. C. Day, proxy for W. M. G. O. Foster, J. W.
Anoka, No. 30.....	Not represented.
King Hiram, No. 31.....	Robert H. McClelland, S. W.
Sakatah, No. 32.....	George A. Blair, W. M. R. C. Philbrick, S. W.
Star in the East, No. 33.....	J. M. Burlingame, W. M.
Oriental, No. 34.....	J. L. Grant, proxy for W. M.
Mount Moriah, No. 35.....	J. L. Power, proxy for W. M. Daniel W. Truax, S. W. A. H. Truax, proxy for J. W.

Preston, No. 36.....	Giles A. Baker, W. M. Frank M. Jewett, S. W. Geo. W. Hard, J. W.
Mystic Tie, No. 37.....	L. G. Thompson, W. M.
Washington, No. 38.....	Melvin G. Peters, W. M. H. C. Sheldon, S. W.
Fidelity, No. 39 .....	William G. Wilkins, S. W.
Carnelian, No. 40.....	M. P. Stroup, W. M.
Hermon, No. 41.....	Ira D. Warren, W. M. B. B. Cheeny, proxy for S. W.
Hope, No. 42.....	A. P. Fitch, W. M.
Harmony, No. 43.....	I. C. Slade, W. M.
King Solomon, No. 44.....	Horace D. Carter, W. M. I. Lincoln, proxy for J. W.
Union, No. 45.....	E. P. Rutan, W. M.
Evergreen, No. 46.....	H. H. Haydon, S. W.
Concord, No. 47.....	William H. Hall, W. M.
Social, No. 48....	F. A. Noble, W. M.
Rising Sun, No. 49.....	George H. Johnson, W. M.
Watertown, No. 50 .....	Ernest Hainlin, W. M.
Acacia, No. 51 .....	Arthur H. Steen, W. M. Robert Wilkins, J. W.
Cannon River, No. 52.....	J. D. Buck, proxy for W. M. George Molin, S. W.
Nicollet, No. 54.....	George F. Merritt, W. M. Thos. Downs, proxy for S. W. Thos. Montgomery, proxy for J. W.
Zion, No. 55 .....	J. McCourt, proxy for W. M.
Meridian, No. 56.....	William Strafford, W. M.
Blue Earth City, No. 57.....	R. B. Johnson, proxy for W. M.
Spring Valley, No. 58 .....	Nathan R. Booth, W. M. Henry Cobb, J. W.
Temple, No. 59.....	Charles H. Stinchfield, W. M.
Star in the West, No. 60.....	Hiram P. Gallup, W. M.
Ashlar, No. 61 .....	H. E. Doty, W. M. C. S. Andrews, S. W.
Star, No. 62.....	J. R. Ames, W. M.
Illustrious, No. 63.....	Augustus Smith, W. M. C. E. Daniels, S. W.
Chain Lake, No. 64 .....	M. E. L. Shanks, proxy for W. M.
Golden Rule, No. 65.....	B. H. Sanderson, W. M.
Madelia, No. 66 .....	William H. Witham, W. M.
Corinthian, No. 67 .....	James M. D. Craft, W. M.



Pickwick, No. 110.....	E. B. Huffman, J. W.
Carver, No. 111.....	Henry R. Denny, W. M.
Khurum, No. 112.....	E. J. Davenport, W. M. Albert H. Keith, J. W.
Excelsior, No. 113....	O. C. Meaker, W. M. M. M. Maynard, J. W.
Ben Franklin, No. 114.....	Elbridge D. Hadley, W. M.
Elgin, No. 115.....	William Searles, W. M.
Lafayette, No. 116.....	S. Ives, S. W.
Granite, No. 117.....	Neri T. Hoxsie, J. W.
Newport, No. 118.....	H. A. Durand, W. M. T. V. Nash, S. W.
Delta, No. 119.....	G. M. Durst, W. M. Silas W. Laythe, S. W.
Bismarck, No. 120.....	Joseph Hare, W. M.
Grand Meadow, No. 121.....	Not represented.
Kellogg, No. 122.....	J. E. Gage, W. M.
Prairie, No. 123.....	Charles D. Giddings, J. W.
Janesville, No. 124.....	Luke Kellogg, W. M. R. O. Craig, proxy for S. W.
Winslow Lewis, No. 125.....	John Williams, S. W.
Moorhead, No. 126.....	Not represented.
Centennial, No. 127.....	Miner Ball, J. W.
Josephus, No. 128.....	James E. Brown, S. W.
Swift, No. 129.....	John Q. A. Braden, W. M. Ziba B. Clarke, S. W.
Arcturus, No. 130.....	O. Whitman, W. M.
Alma, No. 131.....	Frank M. Howard, W. M.
Humboldt, No. 132.....	R. S. Miles, proxy for W. M. Julius Ackerman, S. W. J. Shaller, proxy for J. W.
Golden Sheaf, No. 133.....	Henry Huchins, W. M. John House, proxy for S. W. William J. Munro, J. W.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

A. T. C. PIERSON,  
R. LEHMICKE,  
A. MARDEN,  
Committee.

#### VACANCIES.

The M. W. Grand Master designated

Bro. J. A. CANFIELD, as.....Grand Senior Deacon.  
Bro. DWIGHT M. BALDWIN, as.....Grand Junior Deacon.

## ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

The Grand Secretary announced, that in accordance with the resolution adopted at the annual communication of 1877, he had designated Bro. Thos. Montgomery as his Assistant.

## RESOLUTION.

On motion of Bro. L. A. Hancock, it was—

*Resolved*, That all Master Masons in good standing be invited to seats in the Grand Lodge during its session.

The Grand Lodge was called off until 3 o'clock P. M.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

3 o'clock P. M.

Officers and members as at the morning session.

## COMMITTEES.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the following committees:

## RETURNS OF LODGES.

Bros. O. Whitman, (130,) H. H. Covert, (17,) J. H. McCourt, (55,) I. P. Durfee, (101,) and W. T. Wilkins, (39.)

## WORK OF LODGES U. D. M.

Bros. E. Hainlin, (50,) G. A. Blair, (32,) and John H. Noble, (19.)

## GRAND TREASURER AND SECRETARY'S BOOKS.

Bros. L. Z. Rogers, (32,) J. A. Johnson, (1,) and Henry R. Denny, (111.)

## APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES.

Bros. John H. Brown, (104,) O. H. Page, (22,) W. D. Cornish, (5,) S. R. Merrell, (40,) and A. H. Steen, (53.)

## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bros. A. T. C. Pierson, (5,) A. Goodrich, (3,) and C. H. Benton, (4.)

## ANCIENT LANDMARKS.

Bros. A. C. Smith, (89,) D. B. Loomis, (1,) Albert Marden, (98,) Thos. Montgomery, (54,) and E. P. Barnum, (60.)

## MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Bros. C. W. Nash, (35,) Grove B. Cooley, (11,) A. J. Edgerton, (11,) J. N. Castle, (1,) and G. A. Camp, (2.)

## PAY ROLL.

Bros. J. H. Thompson, (19,) R. H. Sanderson, (65,) and F. B. Van Hoesen, (81.)

## APPROPRIATIONS.

Bros. H. R. Wells, (36,) O. G. Miller, (5,) and L. A. Hancock, (8.)

## PRINTING.

Bros. A. T. C. Pierson, (5,) S. D. Downs, (3,) J. H. Thompson, (19.)

The M. W. Grand Master then read the following

## ADDRESS:

*Brethren of the Grand Lodge:*

Since our last annual communication, a year laden with the vicissitudes, burdens and responsibilities, intermingled with so much that makes life's pathway pleasant, has passed away, marking another period in our Masonic lives and history, the pages of which it is our duty to review, that in the future we may avoid the errors of the past and profit by past experience. As we stand upon the threshold of a new year we should gather wisdom by reflection, and as each action of our lives pass slowly like a shadow upon polished steel across our memories, some of them cherished as among life's sweetest gifts, and golden to us by reason of tender associations, yet may not the mirror of our memories be dimmed by recollections that we shrink from and would gladly erase from our memories and our lives.

My brethren, let us be thankful for the years gone by—they have been ours, ours if improved, ours if misspent, and for these we must account—and as we begin our new Masonic year let it be with a determination to walk steadfastly onward, actuated by a will that shall make smooth the rough and rugged road upon which, as pilgrims, toward the Grand East we travel.

One year ago you placed in my hand the gavel of authority, and in thus honoring me, you at the same time placed me under a weighty responsibility to the fraternity of this Grand Jurisdiction. The time has now come when I must account to you of my stewardship and render a full account of my official action.

Of the craft at large, I would say, Freemasonry in Minnesota has been built up on a firm and enduring basis; As the foundation was secure, so has our structure been built, the elements of wisdom and strength have been united with that symbolic beauty taught by speculative Masonry, as exemplified by the widow's son.

Masonry in Minnesota has made wonderful progress. One hundred and forty lodges answer at our roll call, and nearly seven thousand Masons acknowledge fealty to this Grand Lodge. As a rule, our lodges occupy safe and comfortable, and in many instances, elegant halls, suitably fitted up and arranged, with the necessary clothing and paraphernalia of our order, governed by careful and prudent craftsmen, brethren who are zealous in well-doing, guarding carefully the portals, and with an ever-watchful eye closely scrutinizing those who would enter therein.

#### GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

At the time of my last communication to this Grand Body I had received indirectly information that the Grand Orient of France had by resolution eliminated from its constitution that great principle heretofore held sacred by the Masonic world, a belief in Deity. Trusting it were but a rumor I did not call your attention to what I considered a subject that should claim the attention of all who gather about the great lights of Masonry.

In order that you may fully understand the true position of the Grand Orient of France on this question, I place before you a full, true and complete translation from the proceedings of the Grand Orient of France, as translated by Brothers A. D. Hodge and Philip S. Harris, of St. Paul, giving the debates as they took place, and the resolution as adopted.

First, I call your attention to the laws governing in France as they formerly stood, viz.—Freemasonry, an institution essentially philanthropic, philosophic and progressive, has for its object

the search after truth, the study of universal morality, science and arts, and the exercise of benovolence.

- 1st. It has for its principles the existence of God, the immortality of the soul and human solidarity.
- 2d. It regards the liberty of conscience as a right belonging to every man, and excludes no person on account of his beliefs.
- 3d. It has for its motto, "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity."

As the laws now stand they are as follows: "Freemasonry, an institution essentially philanthropic, philosophic and progressive, has for its object the search after truth, the study of universal morality, sciences and arts, and the exercise of benevolence.

- 1st. It has for its principles the absolute liberty of conscience, and human solidarity.
- 2d. It excludes no one on account of his beliefs.
- 3d. It has for its motto, "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE. PROCEEDINGS  
SEPT. 13, 1877.

The order of the day called for discussion of the resolution No. 9, intending to modify the second paragraph of article first of the constitution, and the committee to whom it had been referred stated that they would demand of the assembly first, a vote on the question of adjournment of consideration of the question, and in case the assembly negatived the adjournment, then it would immediately demand the discussion of the resolution.

Bro. Desmons then from the committee, read the following report:

This question has been discussed for the last year in all the lodges and districts.

The committee have heard the delegates of nine (9) committees which by a voice of six to three have pronounced in the affirmative. Each member of the committee has collected the different objections, which have been presented in his district, as follows:

A. "Beware, they tell us if you suppress this article of the



constitution, you will separate the Grand Orient of France from all the Masonic powers of the world."

B. "If you suppress this article, they add, you will produce a greivous agitation in our lodges and provoke in the Grand Orient of France a regrettable schism."

C. "If you suppress this article, do you not fear that the declared enemies of our order will profit by our decision to spread forth the slander on all Masons in denouncing him to the profane world as materialists or atheists?"

And in present circumstances will not that denunciation be pernicious to Masonry itself, and to all the noble and generous ideas which it is its mission to defend and propogate? Such are the principal objections which the partisans of the adjournment of the discussion have addressed to us. These objections having been conscientiously considered by your committee, they nevertheless make the following reply :

As regards to this article of the constitution, is it not the same argument that was brought up hardly seven years ago against the suppression of the Grand (Matrise) Mastership? which they but lately made against the admission into our lodge of men of color, and against the representation of the *high degrees* in our annual convention? have shown that this did not affect our cordial relations with other Masonic powers.

It states further, as a known fact, that the Grand Orient is not the first to adopt this innovation. It has been made in the Grand Lodge of Buenos Ayres, and in Hungary. Which last Grand Lodge is in process of formation, and the Grand Orient of Italy has taken similar resolutions. These having advanced before us, many more will imitate us. Contrary to the belief of many, the clause referred to, is of quite recent date.

Was introduced in 1849 into our constitution, consequently it is no innovation, but only a return to the original situation.

In reference to this subject, this question has been thoroughly discussed for the past twelve years, and during the past year each one of our lodges has been invited specially to study this question, and of the two hundred and ten lodges which have transmitted to

the Grand Orient the result of their deliberations, more than two-thirds have been favorable to the adoption of this resolution. The fear seems to be not so much from seeing the old formula suppressed as to see it replaced by one that seems materialistic or atheistic. No one intends to make a profession of materialism or atheism.

The only intention is to declare simply *absolute liberty of conscience*.

As to the enemies of our order, we can take care of that, calumny cannot be escaped by delay. The clericalists will only accuse us of joining fear and hypocrisy to impiety.

We have no fear of conflicting with civil power, on the contrary we shall imitate it and remain above all creeds and all religions.

Against the adjournment reference is made to the constitution, title 5th, as follows:

“ Every demand for modification of the constitution taken into consideration by the General Assembly of the Grand Orient of France, shall be discussed in the assembly of the following year, the lodges having been first consulted.”

For above reasons the committee by a majority of eight to one decide for immediate discussion.

We demand the supression of article first of our constitution for the following reasons:

1st. Because it appears to us a plain contradiction of the second paragraph of the same article. And because it appears, that often creates trouble to some *Venerables* and to some lodges, who in certain circumstances are constrained, either sometimes to elude the law, or sometimes to violate it. Masonry should always observe the law.

2d. Because many who are not Masons, but who are animated by a sincere desire to become so, regarding it as an institution broad and progressive, see themselves arrested by the dogmatic barrier which their conscience will not permit them to overlook.

3d. Because useless and foreign to the aim of Masonry.

4th. As a scientific society would not put for its foundation stone any theological formula, so should not Masonry, having a field so vast, put its foot on any ground which does not belong to it. Let Masonry eschew religious dogmas which from their na-

tures, because being dogmas, are essentially inquisitorial and intolerant.

Masonry should be above all questions of churches or sects, and should tower in all its grandeur above all their discussions.

It should remain a great refuge always open to all generous and valiant spirits, to all conscientious and disinterested seekers of the truth—and to all the victims of despotism and intolerance.

The committee in discussing the reasonableness of the resolution, stood eight to one, but are unanimous in adopting the following resolution which we propose :

1st. The assembly considering that Freemasonry is not a religion, and that it is not consequently to affirm in its constitution any doctrines or dogmas, adopts resolution No. 9.

2d. The assembly decide that second paragraph of article first of the constitution shall have the following tenor :

“Freemasonry has for its principles the absolute liberty of conscience and human solidarity” (responsibility.)

3d. The assembly suppress, as being a repetition of the second article as modified, the paragraph thus expressed :

“Freemasonry regards the liberty of conscience as a right belonging to each man, and excludes no man for his beliefs.”

4th. The assembly finally decides that article first of the constitution shall henceforth have the following tenor :

“Freemasonry, an institution essentially philanthropic, philosophic and progressive, has for its object the search after truth, the study of universal morality, sciences and arts, and the exercise of benevolence.

“It has for its principles, the absolute liberty of conscience and human solidarity.

“It has for its motto, ‘Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.’”

Should these resolutions pass, the committee recommend the revision of the ritual now in use.

The reading of the above report was received with applause. The President stated that he thought it his duty to state to the assembly the opinion he had expressed in committee, which was, that he feared that although the proposition did not contemplate

any negation of the principles written in the constitution, (the existence of God and the immortality of the soul,) yet it would be a source of danger to the order, because outside he feared that this vote would be evilly interpreted, and that they would accuse us of intentions which were not in the mind of any member of the assembly. Intentions which the last assembly protected, in adopting the declaration which was submitted to it by the council of the order, immediately after taking into consideration resolution No. 9.

(Foot notes here add. that this declaration was made in the convention of 1876.)

The council of the order desires it to be well understood that this vote does not imply the negation of the principles written in the constitution, viz., the existence of God, and the immortality of the soul.

The speakers were especially careful to state they wished only to preserve fully, liberty of conscience. They did not by a reversing of the situation wish to impress on our constitution a character of negation which would present a danger not less great to liberty of conscience and to toleration.

According to the desire of the committee, the vote was put as to the postponement, and negated.

They then passed to a vote, and the main question, paragraph by paragraph.

The first paragraph is—

“The assembly considering that Freemasonry is not a religion, and that it is not consequently to affirm in its constitution any doctrines or dogmas, adopts resolution No. 9.”

Which the assembly adopted.

The second paragraph—

“The assembly decide that the second paragraph of article first of the constitution shall have the following tenor, viz., “Freemasonry has for its principles, the absolute liberty of conscience and human solidarity.”

Which was adopted.

The third paragraph—

The President proposes as an amendment to let remain in the

## THE MINNESOTA MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

August, 1873, a number of the brethren of this jurisdiction formed a Minnesota Masonic Relief Association, located at St. Paul. The results attained demonstrates that its management has been placed in careful and trusty hands. During the past year death losses have been paid to the widows and orphans of our deceased brethren, to the amount of twenty-six thousand dollars, which has been paid out as follows :

NAMES OF DEC'D BR'N.	LODGE.	TO WHOM CLAIMS WERE PAID.	A'MT PAID.
Chas. Waldo...	Ancient Landmark, No. 5..	Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 5.... L. H. Maxfield, Att'y for E. Waldo, brother.....	\$500 00 1500 00
Oscar O. Gould	Mankato, No. 12.....	Mrs. Sarah K. Gould, widow.....	2000 00
Wm. C. Walshe	St. Paul, No. 3.....	" Katie Walshe, widow..... Wm. C. Pope, Guardian of Anna H. and Mary Walshe, daughters.....	666 67 1333 33
John C. Becht..	Ancient Landmark, No. 5..	Mrs. Sarah B. Becht, widow.....	2000 00
Jas. L. Holmes	Corinthian, No. 67.....	" Della E. Holmes, " .....	2000 00
John A. Steen..	Oakfield, (Wis.) No. 158...	" Loretta A. Steen, " .....	2000 00
Chas. Straus...	Dakota, No. 7.....	" Christine Straus, " .....	2000 00
Chas. Collins...	Khurum, No. 112.....	" Anna E. Collins, " .....	2000 00
A. Stucky.....	Mantorville, No. 11.....	" Ann Stucky, " .....	2000 00
W. H. Munson	Minneapolis, No. 10.....	" Sophia P. Munson, " .....	2000 00
H. M. Dodge...	Ancient Landmark, No. 5..	Miss Jane E. Dodge, daughter.....	2000 00
C. H. Blecken..	Hennepin, No. 4.....	Edw. F. L. Blecken, son.....	2000 00
G. G. Maynard	Sakatah, No. 32.....	Mrs. M. J. Maynard, widow.....	2000 00

The total amount paid to beneficiaries during the five years of its organization foot up \$112,074.98.

Our brethren at Minneapolis, July, 1877, formed a relief association. The management of it has been placed under the direction of brethren whose high standing furnishes a guaranty of the future success of the institution placed under their charge.

There has been added to their numbers during the past year 684 members. They have met with but one loss since their organization.

As all institutions of this character are wards of the fraternity, and while the object for which they are formed appeal to the higher impulses of our nature, they are also at the same time organizations that require a careful guardianship, in order that the sacred trusts placed in their hands be so managed as to secure to us all the full accomplishment of the object for which they were created.

## NECROLOGY.

While presenting to you such matters as relate to the living, I am also admonished that death has been engaged in gathering his harvest from among the greatest and best of our order. Among those who have submitted their work to the Grand Architect on high, we are called upon to mourn the loss of our R. W. Bro. J. H. McKenny, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Iowa near the Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

Bro. McKenny was born in Chambersburg, Penn., October 24th, 1813.

He removed to Iowa while it was yet a territory, and was the second or third upon whom the Masonic degrees were conferred in that territory, and was appointed an officer of it on the organization of the Grand Lodge of that jurisdiction.

Removing to Minnesota in 1854, he was one of the most active in organizing Meridien Lodge at Chatfield, the dispensation for which was granted in 1856.

In Capitular Masonry he was equally zealous, was the first King of North Star Royal Arch Chapter, No. 11, at Chatfield; High Priest two successive terms; was elected Grand King of the Grand Chapter in 1870; Deputy Grand High Priest in 1871, and Grand High Priest in 1872, all of which positions he filled with distinguished ability.

The Chivalric Orders were conferred upon him in Home Commandery, No. 5, at Rochester. In the war with Mexico, where he obtained the soubriquet of "Captain," he was distinguished as a brave soldier and generous foe.

In all the walks of life his guiding star was "Honor and Duty."

Bro. McKenny died at Chatfield, May 23d, 1878, was buried with Masonic honors, by the largest assemblage of Masons that had ever been witnessed in Southern Minnesota.

M. W. Bro. J. McCaleb Wiley, who was appointed as Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Alabama in the year 1856, died December 2, 1877.

M. W. Bro. George W. Chaytor who died April 14th, last, was the Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Delaware. Added to the sad roll is recorded the names of Past Grand Master Geo. E. Lounsbury, of Illinois, Past Grand

Master A. J. Wheeler, of Tennessee, Bro. H. W. Walter, Past Grand Master of Mississippi, Bro. Frank Welsh, Grand Master of Nebraska, and Bro. J. A. Harris, Grand Secretary of New Hampshire.

#### CONCLUSION.

And now in conclusion I desire to say that when you called me to the Grand East, I promised you and myself to use my utmost endeavors to promote and foster by all means in my power, the important interests and responsibilities placed in my charge. And now as I look back on the past year I realize that while there was so much to accomplish, I was able to do so little. Those of you who are actively engaged in business pursuits can very readily conceive of the multiplicity of cares incidental to men who have large business interests to care for and manage. It was impossible for me to visit lodges and give them a personal inspection. With feelings of regret I have been obliged to decline many kind invitations extended to me to visit our brethren on occasions when, could I have done so, it would have been to me a source of great pleasure to have witnessed their work, and partaken of their hospitality.

Called unexpectedly to the head of the craft in this jurisdiction I have acted as my judgment dictated. In making decisions, I have striven to do justice according to the tenor of our Masonic laws, never forgetting that with us official position is but temporary and that on the great trestle board of life, we must all stand alike, and must sooner or later submit our work to that test that knows but perfection, regardless of who the artificer may be.

My brethren my task is nearly completed, it is submitted for your inspection, and I trust it may meet your approval. I return to you the gavel of authority, I have not exceeded the authority you conferred upon me, and as I place again in your hands the Master's Square, I return it to you with a grateful remembrance of your unvarying kindness and courtesy to me during my official terms, and with my many thanks for the honors you have paid me, I in spirit take each of you by the hand and pray that life's choicest blessings may be yours.

E. W. DURANT,

Grand Master.



## REFERENCE.

On motion of Bro. E. P. Barnum, (60,) the address was referred to a committee of three for subdivision and reference.

Bros. E. P. Barnum, (60,) Richard J. Marvin, (7,) and G. H. Davis, (23,) were appointed such committee, which in a few moments presented the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

The Committee to which was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master for subdivision and reference, respectfully recommend :

1st. That so much as relates to the Grand Orient of France, be referred to a special committee of five.

2d. That so much as refers to the decisions of the Grand Master, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

3d. That so much as refers to dispensations, be referred to the Committee on Work of Lodges U. D.

4th. That so much as refers to necrology, be referred to special committee of three.

5th. That the residue of the address be referred to a special committee of three.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

E. P. BARNUM,

R. J. MARVIN,

G. H. DAVIS,

Committee.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed as such committees—

1. Bros. G. H. Davis, (23,) E. E. Corliss, (99,) J. M. D. Craft, (67,) R. J. Marvin, (7,) and H. Hatch, (83.)

4. Bros. Edgar Nash, (79,) A. LaDue, (11,) and M. P. Stroup, (40.)

5. Bros. E. Davenport, (112,) B. F. Jenness, (104,) and I. C. Slade, (43.)

## GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

J. H. THOMPSON, Grand Treasurer,

In account with the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

1878.

## RECEIPTS.

Jan. 16, To balance cash on hand, as per report of Bro. G. A.

Camp..... \$4,188 47

Jan. 16, To amount received from A. T. C. Pierson, G. S..... 562 00

Jan. 17, To amount received from A. T. C. Pierson, G. S..... 65 50

Jan. 26, To amount received from A. T. C. Pierson, G. S..... 77 00

Nov. 18, To amount received from A. T. C. Pierson, G. S..... 132 50

1879.

Jan. 13, To amount received from A. T. C. Pierson, G. S..... 35 00

\$5,060 47



## DISBURSEMENTS.

By paid Order No. 39, Morning Star Lodge, No. 29.....	\$200 00
By paid pay-roll of Grand Lodge.....	1,149 89
By paid Order No. 40, Thomas Montgomery.....	10 00
By paid Order No. 41, Miller & Rich, printing notices.....	16 90
By paid Order No. 42, Grand Tyler .....	25 00
By paid Order No. 43, E. W. Durant.....	25 00
By paid Order No. 44, A. T. C. Pierson, Committee on Foreign Correspondence.....	250 00
By paid Order No. 45, E. W. Durant.....	525 00
By paid Order No. 46, Great Western, Band.....	60 00
By paid Order No. 47, Sunset Lodge, No. 109.....	13 00
By paid Order No. 48, Watertown Lodge, No. 50.....	4 50
By paid Order No. 50, Expenses M. W. G. M. Braden for A. L. 5877.....	275 00
By paid Order No. 51, Libanus Lodge, No. 96 .....	17 00
By paid Order No. 52, Funeral expenses.....	9 25
By paid Order No. 53, Grand Secretary's Office, carpenter work	6 75
By paid Order No. 54, Miller & Rich, printing proceedings....	200 00
By paid Order No. 59, Rent of Office, \$75; Postage, \$75.....	150 00
By paid Order No. 60, Miller & Rich, bal. printing proceedings.	432 50
By paid Order No. 61, R. H. Neal W. M. Anchor Lodge, No. 424, Texas .....	187 00
By paid Order No. 1, Insurance G. L. property.....	56 00
By paid Order No. 2, A. T. C. Pierson, G. S. salary.....	200 00
By paid Order No. 3, Rent of office.....	100 00
By paid Order No. 4, A. T. C. Pierson, G. S. ....	200 00
By paid Order No. 5, Balance of postage.....	25 00
By paid Order No. 6, E. W. Durant .....	20 00
By paid Order No. 7, A. T. C. Pierson, G. S. ....	100 00
By paid Order No. 10, Wm. Bickell, per order G. L., Jan. 16, A. L. 5878 .....	20 00
Balance cash on hand.....	782 68
	<hr/>
	\$5,060 47

All of which is fraternally submitted,

J. H. THOMPSON,  
Grand Treasurer.

St. Paul, Jan. 14th, 1879.

## GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

*To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary herewith presents his annual report.

## PROCEEDINGS.

The transactions of the last annual communication were printed and the usual distribution made within twenty days after the close of the session.

It is particularly desirable that the pamphlet published annually, should be uniform in weight, color of paper, and typographical execution.

It affords me much gratification to state that several of the Committees on Foreign Correspondence who have had our proceedings under review, have remarked upon the excellence of their general appearance, at the same time the cost has been kept within the appropriation.

## CHARTERS.

The several charters ordered at the last annual communication were severally made out and delivered as soon after the close of the session as practicable.

## DIGEST.

The "Digest" presented at the last annual communication, and by resolution directed to be printed, did not come into my possession until some two months after the close of the session. On examination, I found that there had been so much matter introduced, that there was not money enough remaining of the appropriation to pay for its printing. Governed by my frequently expressed determination not to draw warrants in excess of appropriations, or to involve the Grand Lodge in an indebtedness, I let the matter go over; again, I was led to believe that amendments to the Constitution would be proposed at the present session, and in that case the digest would only be useful for a few months.

## ENGRAVING OF P. G. M. BRADEN.

At the last annual communication an appropriation of \$60 was made, with which to procure an engraving of our late Grand Master, to be bound with the proceedings of this session. Correspondence with artists in Boston, New York, Chicago, &c., developed the fact that such a plate as was desirable, could not be had for less than from \$75 to \$100, hence the order has not been given.

## GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

In this connection I will state, that in examining the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas, for review, I noticed that the lodge at Houston, which had taken charge of the remains of our late Grand Master, at that place, while in transit home, had presented a bill to the Grand Lodge for expenses incurred. The Grand Lodge promptly ordered that the bill be paid.

No claim is made by the Grand Lodge of Texas, or any intimation of a bill, but I submit to this Grand Lodge that the Grand Lodge of Texas

should be reimbursed of moneys paid for attentions to our dead, the amount paid was \$34.50.

Of the appropriation made to pay the charges of Anchor Lodge, at San Antonio, there remains a balance of \$113, from which this sum of \$34.50 might with propriety be drawn.

#### DISPENSATIONS.

During the year, dispensations, by direction of the Grand Master, have been issued as follows:

Jan. 17, 1878, Cokato Lodge, at Cokato, Wright county.

Jan. 17, 1878, Nelson Lodge, at Buffalo, Wright county.

Jan. 17, 1878, Messiah Lodge, at Appleton, Swift county.

Aug. 12, 1878, Walnut Lodge, at Walnut Station, Redwood county.

Dec. 10, 1878, Fidelity Lodge, at Verndale, Wadena county.

Dec. 12, 1878, Orion Lodge, at Atwater, Kandiyohi county.

In each case the petitioners were required to present either a dimit, or certificate that the dues were paid to their respective lodges up to the date of the application.

#### FINANCIAL.

I have received and paid to the Grand Treasurer since the close of the last annual communication

Charter fees for Arcturus Lodge, No. 130; Humboldt Lodge, No.

132; Golden Sheaf Lodge, No. 133—\$25.00 each..... \$75 00

Dues of Relief Lodge, No. 108—for 1877..... 40 50

Dues of Delta Lodge, No. 119—for 1877..... 9 00

For six dispensations to new lodges, as noted..... 120 00

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\$244 50

#### FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

I have received communications asking recognition and proposing an exchange of Representatives from

The Grand Lodge of the Republic of Liberia.

The Grand Lodge of Spain.

The Grand Lodge of Australia.

It has not been customary for this Grand Lodge, to, by formal resolution, recognize new organizations, but have sent to all such, our published proceedings.

I am indebted to Bros. A. D. Hodge and Philip S. Harris, for a translation of the Spanish documents.

#### PERIODICALS.

It would be discourteous, at least, should I omit to inform the Grand Lodge that this office is in receipt of the following periodicals:

Masonic Review.....	Cincinnati, Ohio.
Voice of Masonry.....	Chicago, Illinois.
Craftsman.....	Port Hope, Ontario.
Freemason's Repository.....	Providence, R. I.
Liberal Freemason.....	Boston, Mass.
Masonic Eclectic.....	Washington, D. C.
Masonic Advocate.....	Indianapolis, Ind.
Our Home.....	Louisville, Ky.
Corner Stone.....	New York.
Masonic Newspaper.....	New York.

In addition to a narration of current Masonic events, these periodicals contain literary articles of a high order, articles pleasing to read at a brother's fireside. No Mason that prides himself upon being "posted," can afford to be without at least one of these periodicals.

#### GRAND LODGE REGISTRY.

In the writing up of the Grand Lodge Registry, I can only report progress. When once written up it will be a comparatively short job to keep it so, the task now to bring up the arrearages of past years is almost Herculean, and I hesitated for a long time about undertaking it. A Grand Lodge number affixed to a name is designed to be permanent, no matter how often the party dimits and affiliates; examination of the Grand Registry develops the fact that several names have two and three Grand Lodge numbers affixed, the parties who entered the names, copying returns without examining whether the names had been previously entered or not. Again, the information required by the Grand Constitution to be sent up in the returns are not properly attended to in every instance. Ages, nativity, occupation, residence, date of affiliation, in what lodge raised, &c., &c., are omitted. No lodge numbers are affixed, &c., showing either that the lodge has no lodge register, as required by the Grand Lodge Constitution, or it is not written up.

These matters only are mentioned to give the Grand Lodge something of an idea of the amount of time and labor necessary to bring the Grand Lodge Register up to the time that I assumed the duties of the office.

#### RETURNS.

The Regulations of the Grand Lodge requires that the returns be sent to the Grand Secretary ten days before the annual communication.

I mailed two blanks to each lodge in the jurisdiction on the fifth of December. The Masonic year with us ends December 31. The returns are to be made up to include the last stated meeting previous to December 31st, hence there is ample time to make out the returns and send them to the Grand Secretary in the time required by the Regulations.

This is a very important matter to the Grand Lodge, in the saving of its time and expenses.

If the lodge registers are properly written up—at the time of the occurrence—very little time is required to make out the returns.

#### APPROPRIATIONS.

Only the ordinary appropriations are required. I know of nothing that calls for appropriations beyond the usual expenses.

Fraternally submitted,

A. T. C. PIERSON,  
Grand Secretary.

The reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were referred to the appropriate committee.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Grand Secretary presented the report on Foreign Correspondence in printed form, copies of which were distributed to the members of the Grand Lodge.

#### ORATION.

The Grand Orator, Bro. Geo. A. Camp, (2,) then read his address, replete with Masonic instruction and advice.

The Grand Lodge unanimously adopted a motion requesting of Bro. Camp to furnish the Grand Secretary with a copy of his address to be published in the proceedings.\*

#### GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

On motion of Bro. E. P. Barnum, (60,) it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Appropriations are instructed to report an appropriation of thirty-four dollars and fifty cents, to reimburse the Grand Lodge of Texas for money paid to Houston Lodge, on account of expenses in taking charge of the remains of our late Grand Master, at Houston, while *in transitu* to Minnesota.

#### WASHINGTON LODGE, NO. 38.

A communication from the representatives of Washington Lodge, No. 38, was presented by the Grand Secretary, stating

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\* NOTE.—The Grand Secretary applied to Bro. Camp for the copy, but with that peculiar modesty which he has exemplified in the Grand Lodge for upwards of twenty years, he positively declined.—G.: S.:

that the building owned by it was burned March 9th, 1878, and all their furniture and records, including the charter, was consumed, and asking for a duplicate charter.

The Grand Secretary was, on motion, instructed to issue a duplicate charter to Washington Lodge, No. 38, without fee.

#### REMISSION OF DUES.

Bro. E. P. Barnum, (60,) offered the following, which was adopted :

WHEREAS, Faribault Lodge, No. 9, and Washington Lodge, No. 38, the one on March 9th, and the other on June 25th, 1878, lost all their property by fire; therefore

*Resolved*, That the dues of said lodges for the past year be remitted.

#### STATUS OF MEMBERSHIP.

Several brethren requested that the Committee on Jurisprudence should report upon the Masonic status or lodge membership of certain named brethren. Referred as requested.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until 10 o'clock to-morrow—Wednesday morning.

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### SECOND DAY.

10 O'CLOCK A. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor. Officers and members as at previous session.

#### HOOR FIXED FOR ELECTION.

On motion of Bro. A. J. Edgerton, (11,) it was—

*Resolved*, That the hour for the election of Grand Officers be fixed for 2:30 P. M. to-day.

#### REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

P. . G. . M. . Cooley presiding.

M. . W. . Edward W. Durant, presented his Commission accrediting him as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada near the Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

The Grand Representative was received with the honors appropriate to the occasion.

#### GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

The committee to which was referred that part of the address of the Grand Master referring to the action of the Grand Orient of France, presented a report, which, after some verbal amendments, was adopted.

#### *To the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

The Committee to whom was referred that portion of the M. . W. . G. . Master's address setting forth the action of the Grand Orient of France, in that change of their constitution whereby a belief in Deity and in the immortality of the soul, as a prerequisite for admission to Masonic lodges was abrogated, beg leave to report that they have carefully considered the same and hereby present the following report :

Your Committee deem the subject of vital interest to our order, and one upon which all Grand Lodges have heretofore agreed, and they are deeply pained at the action of the Grand Orient of France, being impressed with the conviction that the said action is destructive of those principles which have always been held dear to Masons everywhere, and they feel that the character of said action deserves the strongest reprobation, and that fraternal relations cannot be consistently maintained between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Orient of France.

Your Committee also deem it important that under the existing circumstances there should be placed on record a reiteration of certain of the cardinal principles of Freemasonry.

A belief in Deity and in the immortality of the soul is now, and has been in all ages, and among all nations, the foundation upon which Freemasonry has builded.

The first lesson impressed upon a candidate for Masonic honors, is his responsibility to a Supreme Being. It is not in the power of any body of men to make innovations in the fundamental principles of Freemasonry.

In view, therefore, of these principles, and facts, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Orient of France have subverted the principles of Freemasonry, by removing the

foundation stone upon which her structure is erected, thereby forfeiting all claims upon Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

*Resolved*, That the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota hereby decline to hold fraternal relations with the Grand Orient of France, and forbids recognition of the Masons under the obedience of the said Grand Orient of France, by the lodges of this jurisdiction until such obedience is severed.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

G. H. DAVIS,  
R. J. MARVIN,  
J. M. D. CRAFT,  
E. E. CORLISS,  
HIRAM HATCH,  
Committee.

#### RESIDUE OF ADDRESS.

The committee to which that portion of the address of the M. . W. . Grand Master not referred to other committees, presented the following report, which was concurred in :

*To the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

Your Committee to whom was referred the "residue of the M. . W. . Grand Master's address," would respectfully report :

1st. That we most heartily endorse the sentiments expressed by the M. . W. . Grand Master in the opening and closing portions of his address, and rejoice with him in the progress of Freemasonry in Minnesota; and we feel assured that the entire brotherhood of this State will unite with us in expressing the sentiment that the gavel of authority was well placed in his hands, and the account of stewardship by him rendered, shows him to have been a faithful and conscientious Grand Master, whose labors, and the honor, dignity and high character of his work, we highly appreciate.

2nd. That in carrying out the wishes of this M. . W. . Grand Lodge, in regard to presenting Bro. E. C. Fisher, of San Antonio, Texas, a token of our appreciation of his kind services, the action of our M. . W. . Grand Master meets our hearty approval.

3rd. That we desire to express our appreciation of the courtesy extended by the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Louisiana to our M. . W. . Grand Master.

4th. The prompt action of our M. . W. . Grand Master to relieve the sufferings of our afflicted brethren in the South, can but meet with the unqualified approval of the entire fraternity.

5th. We fully approve and coincide with our M. . W. . Grand Master



in that portion of his address in regard to the Masonic Relief Associations. And believing it a sacred trust to guard and protect the widows and orphans of our deceased brethren, we would recommend these Associations to the careful consideration and attention of our entire brotherhood.

Fraternally submitted,

EDWARD J. DAVENPORT,

ISAAC C. SLADE,

Committee.

#### AID TO YELLOW FEVER DISTRICT.

For the information of the Grand Lodge the Grand Secretary read a detailed statement\* of the amounts received from the lodges in response to the Grand Master's circular soliciting aid for the sufferers in the yellow fever district.

Total amount received.....	\$1,811 57
Disbursements .....	1,557 60
	<hr/>
Balance on hand .....	\$253 97

—subject to the order of lodges whose contributions were received during the time that rumors were current that no more money was required.

#### TIME OF INSTALLATION.

On motion of Bro. W. H. Hall, (37.) it was

*Resolved*, That the installation of officers be the special order for 7:30 o'clock this evening.

Grand Lodge was called off until 2 o'clock P. M.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor. Officers and members as at morning session.

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\* NOTE.—The statement, letters, acknowledgments, &c., will be printed and sent out with the proceedings.—G. S. S.

## FUNERAL SERVICE.

Bro. G. H. Davis, (23,) presented a Funeral Service, compiled by Bro. C. N. Daniels, (9,) and moved that it be referred to a special committee of three for examination.

So ordered, and Bros. G. H. Davis, (23,) A. Marden, (98,) and F. B. Van Hoesen, (81,) were appointed such committee.

## MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence presented the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to whom was referred the decisions of the M. W. Grand Master, made during the past Masonic year, have had the same under consideration, report that they find the same correct, and approve the same.

## DECISIONS.

*Question.*—A brother has received the degree of Entered Apprentice, his further progress is objected to by a brother who enters a written and verbal protest. The W. M. after hearing the objections raised against the candidate's further progress, decides the reasons given as insufficient, and confers the degrees of F. C. and M. M. The brother raising the objection appeals to the Grand Master.

*Answer.*—The W. M. has the right to confer the degrees after objections are made, should he consider the objections frivolous or insufficient to prevent the advancement of the candidate, and is answerable only to the Grand Lodge.

*Question.*—A candidate presents a petition for Masonic degrees, is in all respects worthy and comes well recommended, but has not lived the requisite time within our jurisdiction, can you grant a dispensation to enable us to confer the degrees petitioned for?

*Answer.*—It is one of the prerogatives of the Grand Master to grant dispensations, but I do not consider I would be justified in the eyes of the craft in granting the dispensation asked for. Therefore the candidate must wait the usual time.

*Question.*—Our secretary has permanently removed from our jurisdiction, can he resign, and can we elect and install another brother in his place?

*Answer.*—An officer cannot resign, you must fill his place by *pro tempore* appointment.

*Question.*—A ballot was had upon the applicant's petition for Masonic degrees, some of the brothers under a misapprehension voted to reject,

subsequently learning they were in error desired to change their votes, can there be a re-opening of the ballot under such circumstances?

*Answer.*—No. The applicant must wait the usual time, viz., six months.

*Question.*—Can the applicant withdraw his petition after being rejected?

*Answer.* No. You cannot allow a withdrawal of application, after an unfavorable ballot.

*Question.*—An applicant for Masonic degrees claims a residence within our jurisdiction, but his wife and family are not residents therein, can we receive his petition and confer the degrees?

*Answer.*—No, he is not a resident of your jurisdiction.

*Question.*—Has a lodge the right to receive the petition of an Entered Apprentice for the degrees of F. C. and M. M. without first obtaining the consent of the lodge in which he was initiated?

*Answer.*—You must first satisfy yourselves that he is worthy, and also obtain the consent of the lodge that initiated him.

*Question.*—A brother receives the E. A. degree, subsequently the lodge having the custody of his application and having conferred the E. A. degree goes out of existence, the brother is now and has been for over one year a resident within our jurisdiction, can we confer the degrees of F. C. and M. M. on him?

*Answer.*—Yes. See Sec. 95, Article 4, of Miscellaneous Regulations, relative to lodges out of existence.

*Question.*—On December 7, 1878, this lodge conferred on a candidate the degree of Entered Apprentice, supposing a residence within this jurisdiction for a period of six months authorized our lodge to confer the degrees, but having since learned we were in error now ask for a dispensation to enable us to confer the degrees of F. C. and M. M.

*Answer.*—The Grand Master regrets the dilemma in which you find your lodge placed, and would say that although the powers of the Grand Master are extensive, they are not sufficient to override the resolutions of the Grand Lodge. It alone has authority to act in the premises.

*Question.*—One of our members has committed suicide, his wife wishes him buried by the fraternity, shall we perform the ceremony?

*Answer.*—Yes, he was our brother, and as such entitled to a Masonic burial.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

C. W. NASH,  
G. B. COOLEY,  
J. N. CASTLE,  
GEORGE A. CAMP,  
A. J. EDGERTON,  
Committee.

## RETURNS OF LODGES.

The Committee on Returns of Lodges presented the following report, which was accepted :

*To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

Your Committee on Returns of Lodges would respectfully report, that they have examined all of the returns and find them correct, with the following exceptions :

Lansing, No. 72—No returns.\*  
Brownsville, No. 73—No returns.  
Minneiska, No. 74—No returns.  
Mystic Circle, No. 78—No returns.  
Constellation, No. 81—Overpaid \$1.50.  
Mankato, No. 12—Amount due, \$67.00; not paid.\*  
Wapahasa, No. 14—Amount due, \$36.50; not paid.\*  
Anoka, No. 30—Amount due, \$52.50; not paid.  
Blue Earth Valley, No. 27—Amount due, \$33.50; not paid.\*  
Union, No. 45—Amount due, \$45.00; not paid.\*  
Unity, No. 93—Amount due, \$16.50; not paid.  
Mount Tabor, No. 106—Amount due, \$26.50; not paid.  
Pickwick, No. 110—Amount due, \$9.50; not paid.\*

Many of the lodges have claimed exemptions for secretary and tyler, others for secretary, tyler, chaplain and honorary members, varying from one to eleven, and have paid no Grand Lodge dues for these exemptions.

In view of this fact, your committee would respectfully recommend that the Grand Lodge, by resolution, fix some definite rule regulating the matter of exemptions from Grand Lodge dues.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

O. WHITMAN,  
J. H. McCOURT,  
I. P. DUFFEE,  
W. T. WILKINS,  
Committee.

## GRAND TREASURER AND SECRETARY'S BOOKS.

The Committee on the Books and Accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, presented their report, as follows :

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\* Received since the close of the session.—G. S.

*To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

Your Committee cannot tell from the Grand Secretary's ledger account with the different lodges how many are delinquent prior years to 1876, nor how much is due the Grand Lodge from them. The ledger should be kept up. We have purchased and started a cash book to enter therein all receipts by Grand Secretary of any moneys coming into his hands, and request that the same be continued. From 1857 to 1876 neither a ledger or cash book was kept by the Grand Secretary, and has annually taken much of the time of this committee which they would like to devote to participating in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge Register has not been brought up since 1871, nor has any part of the appropriation therefor been drawn. The written records of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge are not written up.

We find at this time, lodges Nos. 9, 12,\* 14,\* 20,\* 22,\* 27, 30, 45,\* 47, 72\* 73, 74, 78, 93, 106, 110,\* have not paid their dues for 1878.

Amount of dues received at this time, \$3,759.00.

That the Grand Treasurer has in his hands, \$4,514.18.

An unsettled account shows in Grand Secretary's hands, \$71.00.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

L. Z. ROGERS,  
J. A. JOHNSON,  
H. R. DENNY,  
Committee.

## LODGES U. D.

The Committee on Work of Lodges U. D. presented the following report, which was concurred in and charters ordered to the lodges named :

*To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

Your Committee on Work of Lodges U. D. respectfully report, that we have examined the records, returns and work of the following lodges U. D., and find the work good, and such as we can receive, and believing that the interests of the craft will be promoted thereby, do respectfully recommend that a charter be granted to Cokato Lodge upon a compliance with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge in such case provided.

Also, that a charter be granted to Nelson Lodge, at Buffalo, Wright county.

Also, that a charter be granted to Walnut Lodge, at Walnut Grove, Redwood county.

No records have been received from Messiah Lodge, at Appleton, and

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NOTE.—The dues of No. 9 had been remitted by the Grand Lodge.

\* Received since the close of the Grand Lodge.

it does not appear from the returns that any work has been done by that lodge; we learn, however, from the W. M., that one degree has been conferred therein since the returns were made. We would therefore, respectfully recommend that their dispensation be continued.

No returns or records have been received from Orien Lodge, at Atwater, nor Fidelity Lodge, at Verndale.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

E. HAINLIN,  
G. A. BLAIR,  
F. A. NOBLE,  
Committee.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The hour designated for the election of the officers of the Grand Lodge for the ensuing year having arrived, the M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. E. P. Barnum, (60,) Ed. Nash, (112,) W. A. Miller, (4,) and J. M. D. Craft, (67,) tellers.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GRIEVANCE.

Pending the counting of the ballots for Grand Master, the Committee on Grievances presented the following report, which was concurred in :

##### *To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

The undersigned Committee on Appeals and Grievances have had under consideration the matters of difference existing between Fraternal Lodge, No. 92, at Princeton, and Bro. Silas L. Staples, late secretary thereof, and beg leave to report, that from the papers before us, we are unable to discover anything forming a basis for any final action of this Grand Lodge.

The papers in this case, (eighteen in number,) mostly purport to be copies of papers and records in the custody of the said lodge, but they contain no authentication whatever; nor is there any reason given why they have not been so authenticated by the proper certificate. And moreover, had they been so certified, they fail to disclose the nature of the brother's grievance, and do not contain anything to enable the committee to intelligibly comprehend the matters of difference between the brethren.

But inasmuch as Bro. Staples may have a well grounded cause of complaint against the action of his lodge, we would not advise a summary dismissal of the matter, but recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz. :

*Resolved*, That all papers in this cause, now on file with the Grand Secretary, be by him returned to Bro. Silas L. Staples, the moving party herein, for proper authentication; and that the said Bro. Staples, in case

he desires to further prosecute his complaint, be directed to forward to the Grand Secretary, at least sixty days prior to the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge, a succinct statement in writing, of the facts constituting his supposed grievances and grounds of complaint.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

JOHN H. BROWN,  
A. H. STEEN,  
S. R. MERRELL,  
W. D. CORNISH,  
O. H. PAGE,  
Committee.

The tellers announced that Bro. Henry R. Wells, (36,) was elected Grand Master.

On motion, P. . G. . Ms. . A. T. C. Pierson, Charles W. Nash and Grove B. Cooley, were appointed a committee to wait upon Bro. H. R. Wells, G. . M. . elect, and introduce him to the Grand Lodge.

#### FRATERNAL LODGE, NO. 101.

Pending the counting of the ballots for Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Secretary presented a petition from Fraternal Lodge, No. 101, which was referred to the Committee on Work of Lodges U. . D. .

Bro. C. H. Benton, (4,) was elected Deputy Grand Master.

#### MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE REPORT NO. 2.

Pending the counting of the ballots for Senior Grand Warden, the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted :

*To the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to whom was referred that portion of the address of the M. . W. . Grand Master, relating to the recognition by this Grand Lodge of the formation and organization of the Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory, and the relinquishment of jurisdiction by this Grand Body over Shilo Lodge, No. 105, at Fargo, and Bismarck Lodge, No. 120, at Bismarck, Dakota Territory, said lodges holding their charters from and working under the jurisdiction of this M. . W. . Grand Lodge, have had the same under consideration, during the limited time at their disposal, and would respectfully and fraternally report, that on account of the important questions involved in the whole subject matter, your

committee will be unable to make such a report of *all the facts*, in connection with this subject, which it demands, at the hands of your committee, for the action of this Grand Lodge. Your committee, however, find on the partial examination of the facts submitted to them, that there is a different side to the question than that presented by the Grand Master of, and the committee on the Grand Master's address, of the Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory.

Your committee would state, that the first official information or communication from the Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory, respecting recognition of said Grand Lodge by this Grand Lodge, and the relinquishment of jurisdiction over the subordinate lodges in Dakota Territory, heretofore named, was presented by M. W. Grand Master E. W. Durant, in his address at the present session. We are informed, that during the year 1876—or some time in 1877—there was some correspondence had, appertaining to this matter, between the Grand Master of Dakota Territory and our lamented M. W. Grand Master J. C. Braden. It is a fact well known to the brethren of this Grand Body, that during almost the entire year of 1877, the impaired condition and falling health of M. W. Grand Master J. C. Braden wholly incapacitated him to discharge any duty of a personal or official character to any extent; that some time in the month of November, 1877, he left this jurisdiction in the hope of obtaining, at least, partial restoration of health—he died at San Antonio, Texas, December 9th, 1877—whatever correspondence and papers there may have been in the case, were not brought to the notice of M. W. Bro. E. W. Durant, Acting Grand Master, or this Grand Lodge, at its last session. Your committee earnestly and fraternally desire to possess all the facts and information that can be obtained, but cannot do so at this session.

In consideration of the foregoing, we offer the following resolutions for adoption:

*Resolved*, That Shilo Lodge, No. 105, at Fargo, and Bismarck Lodge, No. 120, at Bismarck, within Dakota Territory, so long as said subordinate lodges shall desire to continue their affiliation with this, their parent Grand Lodge, be permitted to do so, and that this M. W. Grand Lodge will support, defend and maintain their rights, and execute authority and control over them, till such a time as by their own free will and accord they shall desire to withdraw their connection with this Grand Lodge.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of this case be continued till the next session of this Grand Body.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

C. W. NASH,  
G. B. COOLEY,  
J. N. CASTLE,  
GEORGE A. CAMP,  
A. J. EDGERTON,  
Committee.



Bro. C. N. Daniels, (9.) was elected Senior Grand Warden.

LODGES U. S. D., SECOND REPORT.

Pending the counting of the ballots for Junior Grand Warden, the committee on Work of Lodges U. S. D., presented the following additional report, which was concurred in :

*To the M. S. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

Your committee on Work of Lodges U. S. D. do respectfully report, that since presenting their former report they have received a petition from the brethren of Fidelity Lodge U. S. D., Verndale, for a renewal of their dispensation, which we recommend be granted.

We also recommend that the request of Fraternity Lodge, No. 101, to have the name of Bro. Albert C. Robinson inserted in their charter as W. S. M., in place of the name of Bro. M. B. Odell, be granted.

Fraternally submitted,

ERNEST HAINLIN,

G. A. BLAIR,

F. A. NOBLE,

Committee.

COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

The special Committee on Obituaries presented the following report, which was concurred in :

*To the M. S. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

Your Committee to whom was referred that portion of the M. S. W. Grand Master's address, alluding to the decease of distinguished brother Masons in other jurisdictions, beg leave to report as follows : Your committee regret that the necessary knowledge of the lives of those brethren to whom allusion is made, is not in the possession of your committee, as it would be a grateful task to enumerate their virtues ; yet your committee believe from the various positions occupied by those deceased brethren, that they were worthy of the distinguished prominence given them by their brethren, and that their record completed in their death, was one of honor and merit.

Your committee, however, learn that in the death of Bro. H. W. Walter, Past Grand Master of Mississippi, and Bro. A. J. Wheeler, Past Grand Master of Tennessee, the fraternity in those States have lost brethren whose hearts ever beat in sympathy with the suffering everywhere, and whose hands were ever ready to minister to the wants of the needy, and consolation to the distressed. In the discharge of their duties as men and Masons, Bros. Walter and Wheeler laid down their lives in attendance upon the stricken by the late scourge in their respective States ; and such examples of self sacrifice are worthy of all commendation and emulation.

Your committee most heartily concur in the remarks of the M. W. Grand Master relative to our late Bro. J. H. McKenny, Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Iowa near this Grand Lodge, and can add nothing thereto.

In conclusion, your committee recommend that memorial pages be inserted in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, to the R. W. J. H. McKenny, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Iowa near this Grand Lodge; M. W. Geo. W. Chaytor, our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Delaware; and M. W. J. McCaleb Wiley, our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Alabama.

Fraternally submitted,

EDGAR NASH,  
A. LADUE,  
M. P. STROUP,  
Committee.

#### MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE REPORT NO. 3.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence presented the following report, which was adopted:

##### *To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:*

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to whom was referred so much of the address of M. W. Grand Master E. W. Durant, as refers to the membership and Masonic standing of Bro. Ayers, in Acacia and Newport Lodges, have had the same under consideration, and would submit the following report:

The M. W. Grand Master at the last communication of this Grand Lodge reported certain decisions which he had made, and which were submitted to your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, and approved by them, and upon their report, by the Grand Lodge. The only decisions thus approved that can in any way be considered as affecting the question now submitted to your committee were those re-enacting the provision against dual membership, and one granting a dispensation for an election of S. W. when the lodge had failed to elect.

It did not appear in the decisions that Bro. Ayers was the party referred to nor do all of the facts pertaining to his case appear in these decisions. At a subsequent period of the Grand Lodge the case of Bro. Ayers was submitted to your committee, and in the hurry preceding the close of the Grand Lodge, your committee presented a resolution declaring Bro. Ayers a member of Acacia Lodge and not a member of Newport Lodge, which resolution was adopted by the Grand Lodge, and which action fixed the membership of Bro. Ayers in Acacia Lodge as far as it was in the power of the Grand Lodge to do so.

As this subject matter is now again submitted to your committee, we

feel constrained to say that it is somewhat of a difficult problem to solve, in accordance with Masonic law, under the previous action of the Grand Lodge. But your committee have deemed it best to consider it as a new question to be determined by the facts in his case, under the Constitution and Regulations of this Grand Lodge.

The question of membership is one that is easily determined, in the absence of any legislative action by the Grand Lodge, as it is only necessary to apply the facts to the custom and recognized rights of Masons, and Masonic lodges under the Constitution and General Regulations, but when a regulation is adopted at one session of the Grand Lodge and repealed at the next, it creates confusion like all other hasty legislation.

Membership in subordinate lodges having been once lawfully acquired can only be severed by the voluntary action of the brother, or by being stricken from the roll, or expulsion under the provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, or by death.

The rights and privileges which are acquired when a Mason becomes a member of a Masonic lodge, are personal and valuable to him, and your committee know of no power authorized to take them from him, so long as he obeys its by-laws, and the requirements of his obligation. If this construction of the law is correct then the only questions in determining the Masonic standing of a brother is, has he become a member of a lodge? and if so, whether such membership has been lawfully severed. That Bro. Ayers was a member of Acacia Lodge, and that such membership has not been severed either by his request or by the application of Masonic discipline is not disputed, and therefore he is a member of Acacia Lodge.

At the time the charter was granted to Newport Lodge, dual membership was permitted, but before the constituting of the lodge and signing of the by-laws of Newport Lodge by Bro. Ayers, the regulation prohibiting dual membership was adopted by this Grand Lodge, and in the opinion of your committee Bro. Ayers could not become a member of Newport Lodge without first withdrawing his membership in Acacia Lodge; and not having so withdrawn from Acacia Lodge, he is not a member of Newport Lodge. And your committee would further state that the same principles which apply to Bro. Ayers, would apply to every other member of Newport Lodge.

Your committee would further state that they have arrived at the foregoing conclusion from an examination of the facts in this particular case, and they have not determined that such would have been the situation had the Grand Lodge not prohibited dual membership at the time when Bro. Ayers would have otherwise become a member of Newport Lodge, but would state that the following principles govern the question of the right of a Mason to acquire membership in one or more lodges, and the continuance of such membership.

In the absence of any regulation of the Grand Lodge, a Mason can join as many lodges as will receive him, and that having once lawfully acquired

membership in one or more lodges, that membership cannot be severed by any subsequent action of the Grand Lodge, or of either of the lodges of which he is a member, except in the enforcement of its discipline in pursuance of, and in accordance with, the Constitution, and therefore, where a brother has become a member of two or more lodges, (there being no regulation of the Grand Lodge prohibiting such membership, and no disciplinary action of the lodge, or either of them, and the member not having withdrawn from either lodge,) such brother is a member in good standing in all of said lodges, notwithstanding the fact that the Grand Lodge may have subsequently to the acquiring of such membership, prohibited dual membership.

That at the time when the Grand Lodge prohibits dual membership, a Mason who is a member of a Masonic Lodge, cannot become a member of another lodge until he shall have first withdrawn from his former lodge. And from the application of this rule there is no exception in the case of the establishment of new lodges. In all cases where the resolutions of this Grand Lodge conflict with the Constitution, the Constitutional provision must prevail, it being the organic law and not subject to amendment, only in the manner therein provided. The Constitution, Sec. 32, provides "that a lodge under dispensation is but a temporary and inchoate body, and is not entitled to representation in the Grand Lodge, and those who work it do not forfeit their membership thereby in any other lodge, while it so continues, but such membership is thereby suspended."

From this provision of the Constitution it follows, that brethren who work a lodge under dispensation, continue their membership in their old lodges, such membership being suspended during the time *they work the lodge under dispensation*. As their membership is only suspended during the time they are working the lodge under dispensation, it follows that as soon as they cease to work said lodge their membership in their old lodge is revived. And as that membership cannot be severed by any action of the Grand Lodge, except in Masonic discipline, it follows, in the several cases submitted to your committee, that the brothers who have attempted to join new lodges without withdrawing from their old lodges, during the time that dual membership was prohibited could not lawfully do so, and their membership remains in their old lodges. In the case of Bro. Charles W. Case, your committee would refer to Sec. 26 of the Constitution, which provides "that none but Master Masons and those who have signed the by-laws, can be members of a subordinate or particular lodge," which makes it necessary for a brother to sign the by-laws before he can become a member of the lodge. All of which is fraternally submitted,

G. A. CAMP,  
C. W. NASH,  
G. B. COOLEY,  
A. J. EDGERTON,  
JAMES N. CASTLE,  
Committee.

## RESOLUTION.

Bro. E. Hainlin, (50,) offered a resolution relative to membership in newly chartered lodges, which was, on motion, referred to a special committee of three, and Bros. G. A. Camp, (2,) E. Hainlin, (50,) and J. N. Castle, (1,) were appointed such committee.

Bro. G. A. Camp, (2,) was elected Junior Grand Warden.

Bro. J. H. Thompson, (19,) was re-elected Grand Treasurer; and

Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, (5,) was re-elected Grand Secretary.

## PAY ROLL.

The Committee on Pay Roll presented the following report, which was adopted:

## PAY ROLL.

No.	GRAND OFFICERS.	MILEAGE	PER DIEM	TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.
	E. W. Durant, G. M.	\$1 20	\$4 00	\$5 20	E. W. Durant.
	H. R. Wells, D. G. M.	8 30	4 00	12 30	H. R. Wells.
	C. H. Benton, S. G. W.	50	4 00	4 50	C. H. Benton.
	C. N. Daniels, J. G. W.	2 50	4 00	6 50	C. N. Daniels.
	J. H. Thompson, G. T.	50	4 00	4 50	J. H. Thompson.
	A. T. C. Pierson, G. S.	.....	4 00	4 00	A. T. C. Pierson.
	G. A. Camp, G. O.	50	4 00	4 50	G. A. Camp.
	G. H. Davis, G. C.	4 30	4 00	8 30	G. H. Davis.
	A. McKenzie, G. St. B.	5 90	4 00	9 90	A. McKenzie.
	Benj. L. Perry, G. Sw. B.	50	4 00	4 50	B. L. Perry.
	G. A. Blair, G. P.	3 20	4 00	7 20	G. A. Blair.
	J. Q. A. Braden, G. S. S.	7 80	4 00	11 80	J. Q. A. Braden.
	I. P. Durfee, G. J. S.	10 70	4 00	14 70	I. P. Durfee.
	J. A. Canfield, G. S. D.	4 00	4 00	8 00	J. A. Canfield.
	D. M. Baldwin, G. J. D.	1 90	4 00	5 90	Dwight M. Baldwin.
	PAST GRAND OFFICERS.				
	G. B. Cooley, P. G. M.	50	4 00	4 50	G. B. Cooley.
	C. W. Nash, P. G. M.	50	4 00	4 50	C. W. Nash.
	A. Goodrich, P. D. G. M.	.....	4 00	4 00	A. Goodrich.
	D. B. Loomis, P. D. G. M.	1 20	4 00	5 20	D. B. Loomis.
	J. N. Castle, P. D. G. M.	1 20	4 00	5 20	J. N. Castle.
	Edgar Nash, P. S. G. W.	50	4 00	4 50	Edgar Nash.
	S. R. Merrell, P. S. G. W.	2 76	4 00	6 76	S. R. Merrell.
	S. E. Adams, P. S. G. W.	3 05	4 00	7 05	S. E. Adams.
	L. Z. Rogers, P. S. G. W.	3 20	4 00	7 20	L. Z. Rogers.
	Wm. Lee, P. J. G. W.	1 00	4 00	5 00	Wm. Lee.
	C. O. Ball, P. J. G. W.	1 00	4 00	5 00	C. O. Ball.
	A. J. Edgerton, P. J. G. W.	3 20	4 00	7 20	A. J. Edgerton.
	E. P. Barnum, P. J. G. W.	7 05	4 00	11 05	E. P. Barnum.
	REPRESENTATIVES.				
1	St. Johns.....	1 20	4 00	5 20	J. A. Johnson.
2	Cataract.....	50	4 00	4 50	J. S. Lane.
3	St. Paul.....	.....	4 00	4 00	S. D. Downs.
4	Hennepin.....	50	4 00	4 50	W. A. Miller.
5	Ancient Landmark.....	.....	4 00	4 00	O. G. Miller.
6	Dakota.....	1 00	4 00	5 00	Irving Todd.
7	Red Wing.....	1 90	4 00	5 90	L. A. Hancock.

PAY ROLL--(Continued.)

No.	REPRESENTATIVES.	MILEAGE	PER DIEM	TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.
9	Faribault.....	\$2 50	\$4 00	\$6 50	Geo. M. Andrews.
11	Mantorville.....	6 75	4 00	10 75	A. LaDue.
12	Mankato.....	3 65	4 00	4 00	Clark Keyser.
16	Monticello.....	7 40	4 00	7 65	Henry Kreis.
17	Hokah.....	5 00	4 00	11 40	H. H. Covert.
18	Winona.....	5 50	4 00	9 00	W. H. Bennett.
19	Minneapolis.....	9 04	4 00	4 50	John H. Noble.
20	Caledonia.....	5 10	4 00	13 64	E. W. Trask.
21	Rochester.....	7 15	4 00	9 10	W. G. Bartley.
22	Pleasant Grove.....	4 00	4 00	11 15	George Hoxsie.
24	Wilton.....	4 85	4 00	8 00	W. H. Gillis.
26	Western Star.....	4 00	4 00	8 85	J. F. Reppy.
28	Clear Water.....	6 20	4 00	8 60	Thos. Tollington.
29	Morning Star.....	2 35	4 00	10 20	J. C. Day.
31	King Hiram.....	3 10	4 00	6 35	R. H. McClelland.
32	Sakata.....	3 25	4 00	7 10	R. C. Philbrick.
33	Star in the East.....	4 90	4 00	7 25	J. M. Burlingame.
34	Oriental.....	1 00	4 00	8 90	J. L. Grant.
35	Mount Moriah.....	8 30	4 00	5 00	D. W. Truax.
36	Preston.....	5 90	4 00	12 30	G. A. Baker.
37	Mystic Tie.....	5 75	4 00	9 90	L. G. Thompson.
38	Washington.....	5 40	4 00	9 75	M. G. Peters.
39	Fidelity.....	2 75	4 00	9 40	W. T. Wilkins.
40	Carnelian.....	5 45	4 00	6 75	M. P. Stroup.
41	Herman.....	4 00	4 00	9 45	I. D. Warren.
42	Hope.....	5 70	4 00	8 00	A. P. Fitch.
43	Harmony.....	1 70	4 00	9 70	Isaac C. Slade.
44	King Solomon.....	3 80	4 00	5 70	H. D. Carter.
45	Union.....	7 25	4 00	7 80	E. P. Rutan.
46	Evergreen.....	6 00	4 00	11 25	H. H. Haydon.
47	Concord.....	1 85	4 00	10 00	William H. Hall.
48	Social.....	6 25	4 00	5 85	F. A. Noble.
49	Rising Sun.....	3 25	4 00	10 25	G. H. Johnson.
50	Watertown.....	1 00	4 00	7 25	Ernest Hainlin.
51	Acacia.....	4 05	4 00	5 00	A. H. Steen.
52	Cannon River.....	4 50	4 00	8 05	J. B. Buck.
54	Nicollet.....	4 40	4 00	8 50	G. F. Merritt.
55	Zion.....	10 45	4 00	8 60	J. H. McCourt.
56	Meridian.....	6 40	4 00	14 45	Wm. Strafford.
57	Blue Earth City.....	4 45	4 00	4 00	R. B. Johnson.
58	Spring Valley.....	7 05	4 00	10 40	N. R. Booth.
59	Temple.....	8 00	4 00	8 45	C. H. Stinchfield.
60	Star in the West.....	3 15	4 00	11 05	H. P. Gallup.
61	Ashlar.....	6 00	4 00	12 00	H. E. Doty.
62	Star.....	1 60	4 00	7 15	J. R. Ames.
63	Illustrious.....	6 60	4 00	10 00	A. Smith.
64	Chain Lake.....	8 25	4 00	4 00	M. E. L. Shanks.
65	Golden Rule.....	8 75	4 00	5 60	R. H. Sanderson.
66	Madelia.....	1 45	4 00	10 60	W. H. Witham.
67	Corinthian.....	8 75	4 00	5 25	J. M. D. Craft.
69	Mystic Star.....	4 25	4 00	12 75	B. F. Tillotson.
71	Paynesville.....	6 20	4 00	8 25	Noah Lathrop.
73	Brownsville.....	6 60	4 00	4 00	J. M. Riley.
75	Eureka.....	3 50	4 00	10 20	M. E. Friisbee.
76	Joppa.....	7 20	4 00	10 60	Lysander Cook.
77	Tuscan.....	3 50	4 00	7 50	G. W. Comee.
79	Palestine.....	8 30	4 00	11 20	J. E. Olds.
80	Henderson.....	5 25	4 00	7 50	S. W. Bennett.
81	Constellation.....	6 90	4 00	12 30	F. B. Van Hoesen.
82	Howard.....	8 45	4 00	7 05	C. W. Rickerson.
83	Hiram Abi.....	5 25	4 00	9 25	H. Hatch.
84	Orient.....	5 25	4 00	10 90	M. Emery.
85	High Forest.....	4 62	4 00	12 45	C. Converse.
86	Tyrian.....	7 35	4 00	9 25	E. S. Hyde.
87	Golden Fleece.....	2 10	4 00	8 62	E. Kimball.
90	Good Faith.....	5 10	4 00	9 00	Alex. Fiddes.
92	Fraternal.....	7 10	4 00	9 10	H. Campbell.
94	Keystone.....	8 90	4 00	11 35	J. M. Thompson.
95	Sherburne.....	7 25	4 00	6 10	Wm. B. Mabie.
96	Libanus.....	8 10	4 00	11 25	J. S. Aldritt.
97	Prudence.....	8 10	4 00	9 50	C. H. Smith.
98	Charity.....	8 10	4 00	12 10	Albert Marden.

## PAY ROLL—(Continued.)

No.	REPRESENTATIVES.	MILEAGE	PER DIEM	TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.
99	Corner Stone.....	\$17 20	\$4 00	\$21 20	E. E. Corliss.
100	Aurora.....	8 00	4 00	12 00	N. McFadden.
101	Fraternity.....	10 70	4 00	14 70	A. C. Robinson.
102	Lebanon.....	7 70	4 00	11 70	M. V. Bean.
103	Bethel.....	6 00	4 00	6 50	C. E. Davis.
104	Sharon.....	6 00	4 00	10 00	B. F. Jenness.
105	Shilo.....	16 50	4 00	20 50	E. Porrett.
108	Relief.....	5 25	4 00	9 25	J. E. Gettman.
109	Sunset.....	6 85	4 00	10 85	H. W. Heagy.
110	Pickwick.....	5 00	4 00	9 00	E. B. Huffman.
111	Carver.....		4 00	4 00	H. R. Denny.
112	Khurum.....	50	4 00	4 50	E. J. Davenport.
113	Excelsior.....	3 50	4 00	7 50	O. C. Meaker.
114	Ben. Franklin.....	8 40	4 00	12 40	E. D. Hadley.
115	Elgin.....	5 15	4 00	9 15	Wm. Searles.
116	La Fayette.....	4 95	4 00	8 95	S. Ives.
117	Granite.....	6 25	4 00	10 25	N. T. Hoxsie.
118	Newport.....	45	4 00	4 45	T. V. Nash.
119	Delta.....	9 75	4 00	13 75	G. M. Durst.
120	Bismarck.....	18 00	4 00	18 00	Joseph Hare.
122	Kellogg.....	3 65	4 00	7 65	J. E. Gage.
123	Prairie.....	4 25	4 00	8 25	Chas. D. Giddings.
124	Janesville.....	4 05	4 00	8 05	Luke Kellogg.
125	Winslow Lewis.....	1 50	4 00	5 50	J. Williams.
127	Centennial.....	2 40	4 00	6 40	M. Ball.
128	Josephus.....	6 50	4 00	10 50	J. E. Brown.
129	Swift.....	7 80	4 00	11 80	Z. B. Clarke.
130	Arcturus.....	1 90	4 00	5 90	O. Whitman.
131	Alma.....	5 40	4 00	9 40	Frank M. Howard.
132	Humboldt.....	3 35	4 00	7 35	R. S. Miles.
133	Golden Sheaf.....	9 30	4 00	13 30	H. Hutchins.
	J. H. Brown, Com. on Appeals and Grievances.....			10 00	John H. Brown.
	Total.....			\$1180 08	

All of which is fraternally submitted,

J. H. THOMPSON,  
R. H. SANDERSON,  
F. B. VAN HOESEN.  
Committee.

The Grand Lodge called off until 7:30 P. M.

## EVENING SESSION.

7:30 P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor, officers and members as at previous session.

## BRO. HAINLIN'S RESOLUTION.

The special committee to which the resolution offered by Bro.



Hainlin, was referred, presented the following report, which, after discussion, was adopted :

*To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

The committee to which was referred the following resolution presented by Bro. Hainlin :

*Resolved*, That whenever a charter shall be granted and delivered to a new lodge, it shall be the duty of such new lodge immediately to inform the lodges of which the charter members of such new lodge were last members, of the formation of such new lodge, and give to the parent lodge the names of their members who have become members of such new lodge.

Respectfully report that they have had the same under consideration, and present the following resolution as a substitute therefor, and recommend the adoption thereof :

*Resolved*, That the regulation heretofore adopted by this Grand Lodge, prohibiting dual membership is hereby rescinded, and all brethren who have joined another lodge without first withdrawing from their former lodges, be and the same are hereby recognized as members of both lodges. Provided, that in all cases where a member has been dropped from the rolls, this resolution shall not restore him to membership in his former lodge.

*Resolved*, That hereafter Masons shall not, in this jurisdiction, be permitted to join a lodge, until they shall first present lawful evidence that they have withdrawn from their former lodge.

*Resolved*, That in the organization of new lodges, the members of such lodges shall before they are organized, withdraw from the lodges of which they were formerly members; and it shall be the duty of the officer appointed to install the officers of any new lodge, to require proper evidence of such withdrawal of all the members of such lodge, before installation, such evidence to be proper demits.

*Resolved*, That all resolutions and regulations of this Grand Lodge conflicting with the foregoing, are hereby repealed.

Fraternally submitted,

G. A. CAMP,  
ERNEST HAINLIN,  
JAMES N. CASTLE,  
Committee.

On motion of Bro. C. W. Nash, (35,) it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Pay Roll be instructed to add the name of Bro. J. H. Brown to the pay roll, and that he be allowed mileage and per diem the same as allowed to representatives, he having been in attendance and serving as chairman of the Committee on Grievances.



## APPROPRIATIONS.

The Committee on Appropriations presented the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

The Committee on Appropriations respectfully recommend the following appropriations :

For amount of pay roll, present session.....	\$1180 08
For expenses of M. W. Grand Master, 1878.....	300 00
R. W. Grand Secretary's salary, 1879.....	500 00
R. W. Grand Secretary's contingencies, postage, &c.....	100 00
R. W. A. T. C. Pierson, Report on Foreign Correspondence..	250 00
Harry Burningham, Grand Tyler.....	25 00
Printing proceedings, present session.....	725 00
Miller & Rich, printing as per bill.....	32 00
Proportion of rent, Grand Secretary's office.....	150 00
Insurance Grand Lodge property.....	56 00
To reimburse G. L. Texas, for payment of a bill rendered by Houston Lodge, for expenses in caring for the remains of our late G. M. Braden.....	34 75
John Seeger, carpenter work, Grand Secretary's office.....	15 00
To M. W. E. W. Durant, to balance on Testimonial for C. E. Fisher, Texas.....	6 48
Bro. Thos. Montgomery, Assistant Secretary.....	10 00
To Washington Lodge, No. 38, dues remitted.....	15 50
	<u>\$3399 81</u>

All of which is fraternally submitted,

H. R. WELLS,  
O. G. MILLER,  
L. A. HANCOCK,  
Committee.

## PRESENTATION.

R. W. Bro. J. N. Castle, (1,) in behalf of Grand Master Durant, in chaste and eloquent terms, presented to the Grand Lodge a life-size India ink portrait of P. G. M. Braden.

Rev. Bro. G. H. Davis, (23,) on behalf of the Grand Lodge, accepted the beautiful present.

## INSTALLATION.

The M. W. Grand Master elect announced the appointed officers.

The M. . W. . Grand Master, assisted by Bro. Wilkins, (39,) as Grand Marshal, proceeded to install the Grand officers elect and appointed.

## ELECTIVE.

M. . W. . HENRY R. WELLS, (36,)	Grand Master.
R. . W. . C. H. BENTON, (4,)	Deputy Grand Master.
R. . W. . C. N. DANIELS, (9,)	Senior Grand Warden.
R. . W. . GEORGE A. CAMP, (2,)	Junior Grand Warden.
R. . W. . JOSEPH H. THOMPSON, (19,)	Grand Treasurer.
R. . W. . A. T. C. PIERSON, (5,)	Grand Secretary.

## APPOINTED.

W. . REV. GEO. H. DAVIS, (23,)	Grand Orator.
W. . J. M. D. CRAFT, (67,)	Grand Standard Bearer.
W. . JAMES E. OLDS, (79,)	Grand Sword Bearer.
W. . E. E. CORLISS, (99,)	Grand Senior Deacon.
W. . WILLIAM STRAFFORD, (56,)	Grand Junior Deacon.
W. . J. A. JOHNSON, (1,)	Grand Pursuivant.
W. . HENRY R. DENNY, (111,)	Grand Senior Steward.
W. . JAMES F. REPPY, (26,)	Grand Junior Steward.
W. . HARRY BURNINGHAM, (5,)	Grand Tyler.

As the Grand Chaplain and Grand Marshal were not present, it was ordered that they be installed in their respective lodges.

No more business appearing the Twenty-sixth Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Minnesota was closed in AMPLE FORM, Rev. G. H. Davis officiating as Grand Chaplain.

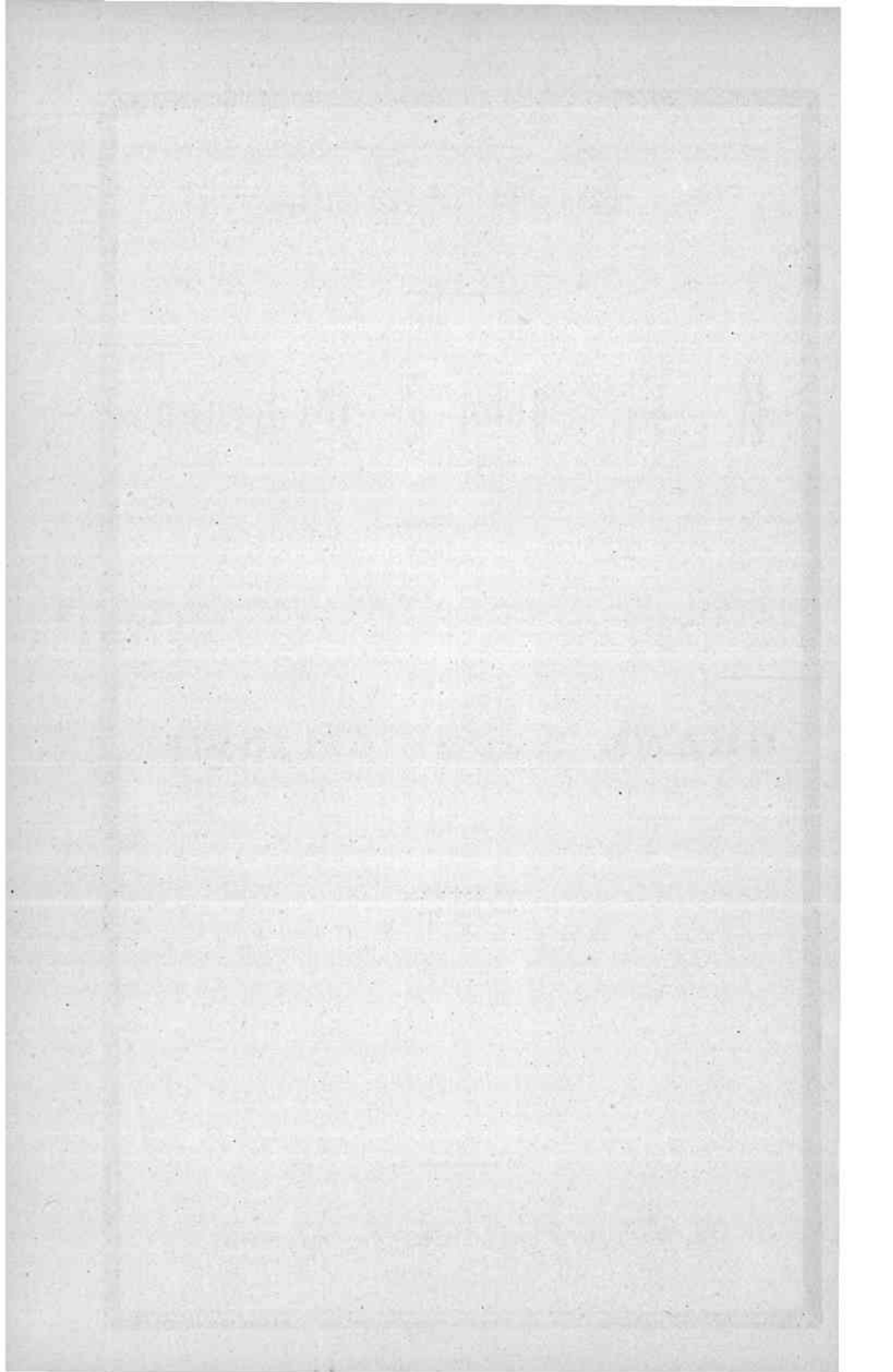
H. R. WELLS,  
*Grand Master.*

A. T. C. PIERSON,  
*Grand Secretary.*

## RECAPITULATION.

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Total number of lodges on roll.....	136
Chartered this session.....	3
Number ceased to work.....	9
Number of working lodges.....	127
Number under dispensation.....	3
Number making returns.....	122
Number represented during session.....	110
Number initiated.....	379
Number passed.....	373
Number raised.....	370
Number adjoined.....	184
Number restored.....	24
Number withdrawn.....	205
Number stricken from roll.....	192
Number suspended or expelled.....	7
Number died.....	55
Total number of members.....	7061
Increase during year.....	119
Total receipts to close of session.....	\$3,809 00
Expenditures last year .....	\$4,277 79
Amount of appropriations for present year.....	\$3,399 81



In Memoriam.

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R. W. John H. McKenny.

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REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE  
**GRAND LODGE OF IOWA.**

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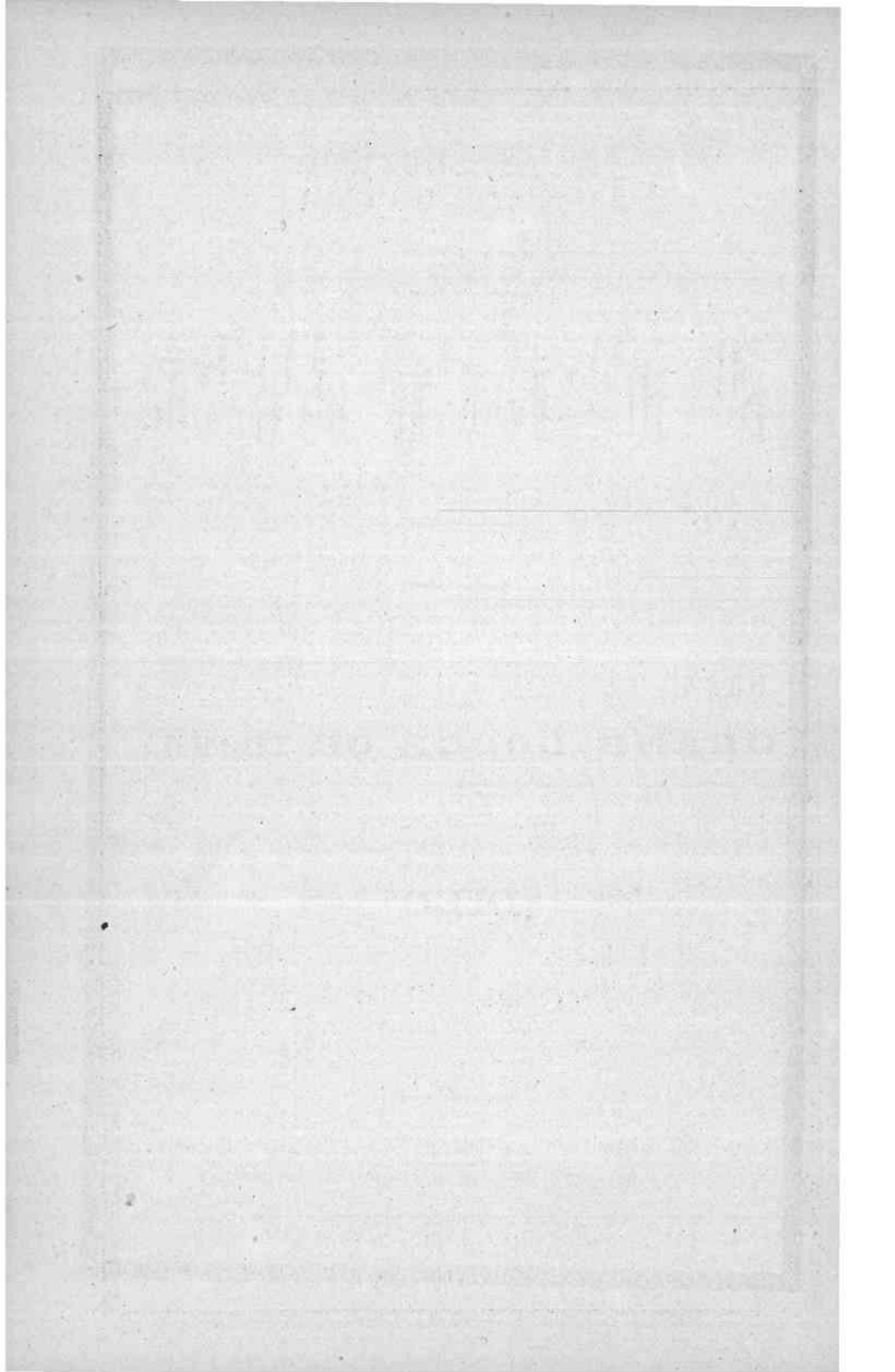
*~* **DIED** *~*

AT CHATFIELD, MAY 23, 1878,

AGED 65 YEARS.

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*To the honest man death has no terrors.*



In Memoriam.

---

J. McCaleb Wilev,

P. G. M. OF ALABAMA.

---

GRAND REPRESENTATIVE OF MINNESOTA.

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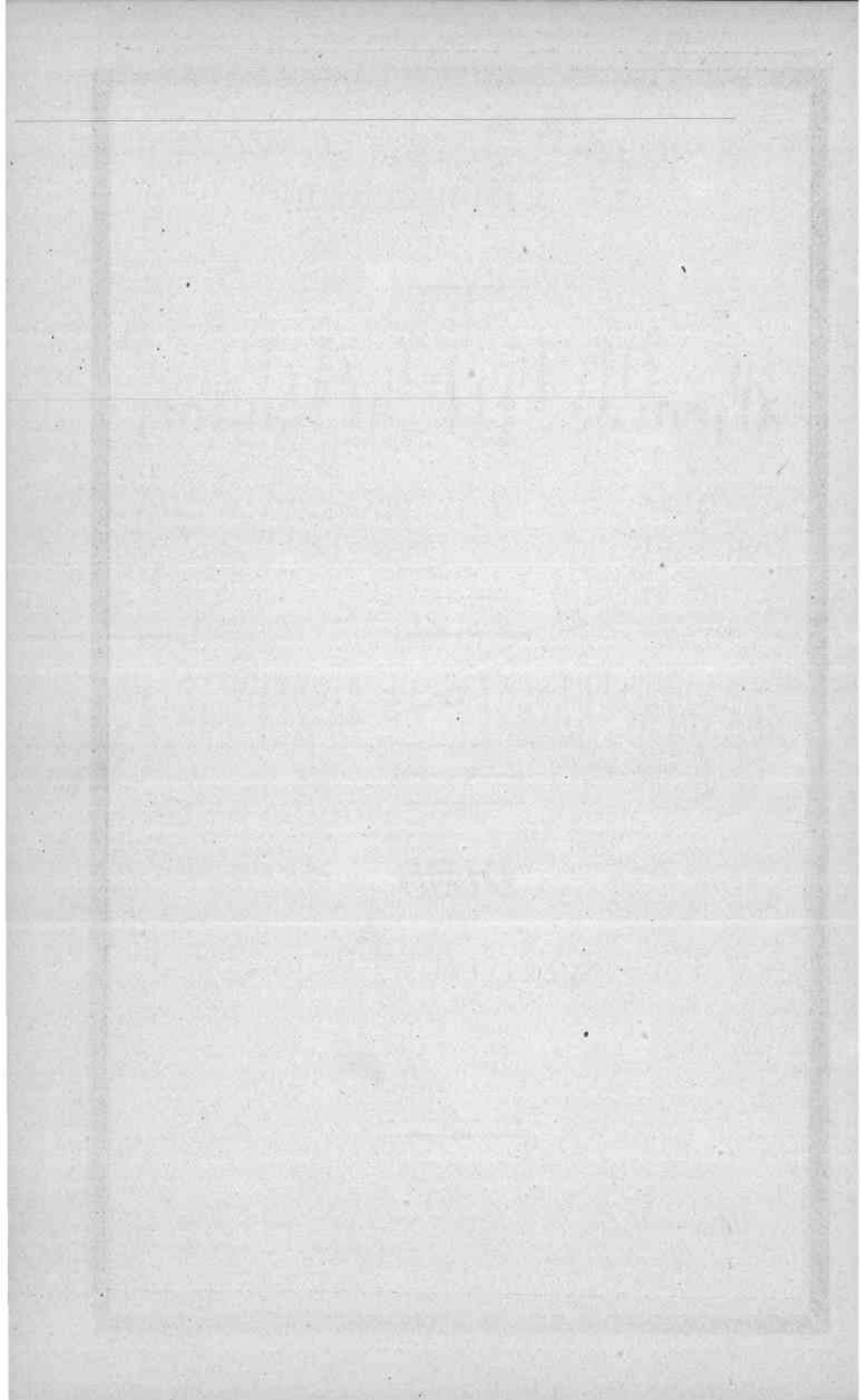
**DIED**

DECEMBER 2d, 1877,

AGED 71 YEARS.

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*Philosophy Triumphs over Misfortune.*





In Memoriam.

---

George W. Chaytor,

P. G. M. OF DELAWARE.

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GRAND REPRESENTATIVE OF MINNESOTA.

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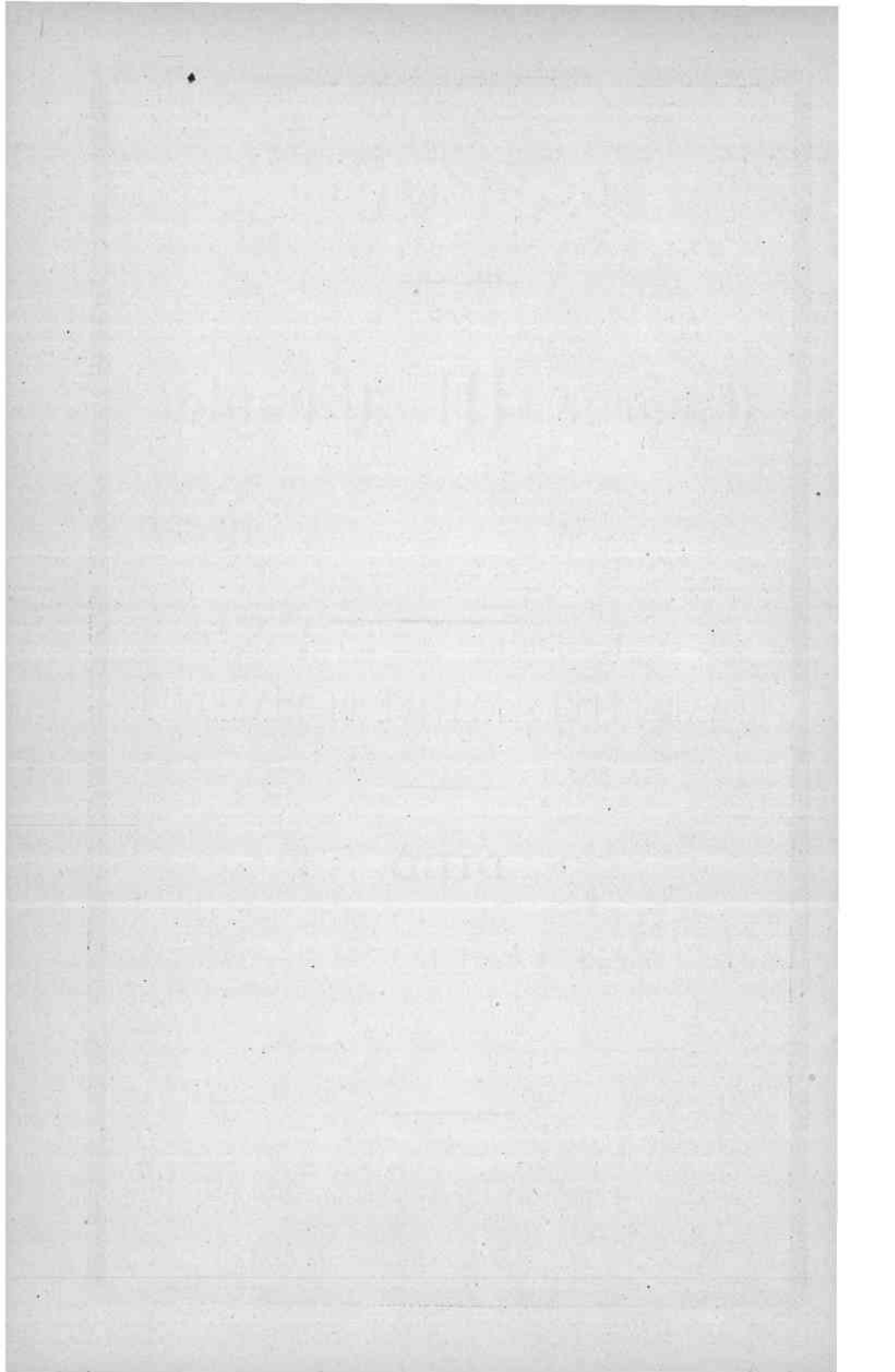
*~* **DIED** *~*

APRIL 14th, 1878,

AGED 64 YEARS.

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*He served the Craft with Fervency and Zeal.*



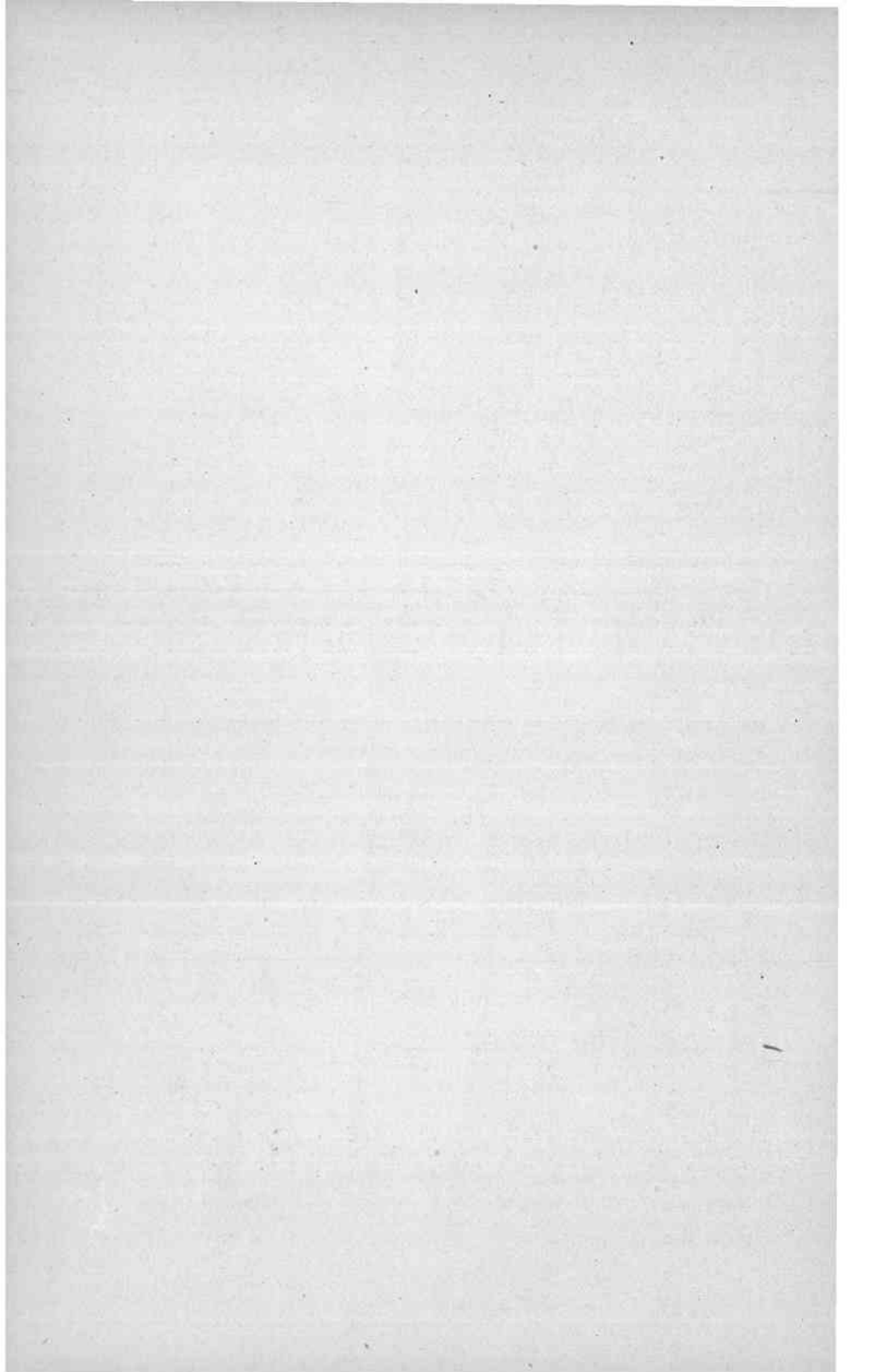
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# APPENDIX.

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## APPENDIX A.

### Foreign Correspondence.

*To the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of Minnesota :*

The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully presents his annual report.

The transactions of the Grand Lodges hereinafter named have been received, examined, and are reported upon in the following pages.

Alabama.....	December, 1877	Montana.....	October, 1877
Arkansas.....	October, 1877	New Hampshire...	May, 1877, 1878
Connecticut.....	January, 1878	New Jersey.....	January, 1878
California.....	October, 1877	New York.....	June, 1878
Colorado.....	September, 1878	North Carolina....	December, 1877
Delaware.....	October, 1877	Nebraska.....	June, 1878
Dist. of Columbia.	November, 1877	Nevada.....	June, 1878
Florida.....	January, 1878	Nova Scotia.....	June, 1878
Georgia.....	October, 1877	Ohio.....	October, 1877
Indiana.....	May, 1878	Oregon.....	June, 1878
Illinois.....	October, 1878	Pennsylvania.....	December, 1877
Iowa.....	June, 1878	P. E. Island.....	February, 1878
Idaho.....	September, 1877	Quebec.....	September, 1877
Kansas.....	October, 1877	South Carolina....	December, 1877
Kentucky.....	October, 1877	Tennessee.....	November, 1877
Louisiana.....	February, 1878	Texas.....	December, 1877
Maine.....	May, 1878	Utah.....	November, 1877, 1878
Massachusetts.....	December, 1877	Virginia.....	December, 1877
Maryland.....	November, 1877	Wisconsin.....	June, 1878
Michigan.....	January, 1878	Washington.....	September, 1878
Mississippi.....	February, 1878	West Virginia.....	November, 1877
Missouri.....	October, 1878	Wyoming.....	October, 1877

Forty-four in number.

The transactions of the Grand Lodges of Canada and Manitoba were received within the week, and too late to be noticed in this report.

Leaving unheard from the Grand Lodges of Indian Territory, New Brunswick, New Mexico, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Last year our report embraced the entire list of Grand Lodges, we very much regret that it does not in this.

We are in receipt of circulars from Spain, Siberia and Australia, asking our Grand Lodge to recognize organizations in those places as regular Grand Lodges—which will be noticed in another place. As usual, we follow the alphabetical arrangement, and commence with

#### ALABAMA, 1877.

The Fifty-seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Alabama was held at Montgomery, December 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th, 1877.

R. . W. . Henry Clay Armstrong, D. . G. . M. ., presiding.

One hundred and eighty-two lodges represented.

Four hundred and twenty-three on the roll.

Five dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The Grand Secretary read the address of the Grand Master, from which we select :

I am happy to say to you that to me there appears to be a better dawning for Masonry in this State. Fewer new lodges have, to be sure, been formed; but on the other hand, some of those which had become dormant have been recalled to life and vigor; and better still, fewer, very much fewer, appeals from the judgments of the lodges have been taken to this communication than usual. Indeed none until with the last few days. These disclosed oftentimes a mass of moral turpitude, and their absence proves that such unworthy members have been pretty thoroughly weeded out, and the hope may now be entertained that a greater degree of moral elevation may be attained under the teachings of our beautiful degrees.

In addition to the foregoing, I would also mention that fewer questions involving any intricacy have been submitted to your Grand Master for his decision. This betokens a more thoughtful and intelligent administration of the affairs of the several lodges by their Worshipful Masters.

The Grand Secretary read a letter announcing the death of P. . G. . M. . James McCaleb Wiley, which occurred December 2. From the report of the committee, we present :

For thirty-six years, without intermission, he faithfully attended the annual communications of this Grand Lodge, and during that period, filled most of the positions of official dignity with credit and honor, and by his experience and wise counsels contributing largely towards shaping its edicts and promoting its prosperity, and having twice been elected Grand Master, receiving and wearing with becoming dignity the highest honors which his brethren could bestow, full of years, and crowded with honors, loved and venerated, he has passed away, we trust, to a seat above the starry-decked heavens, where all true Masons hope it last to arrive.

To commemorate his virtues and as a testimony of our esteem for him, this Grand Lodge now, in this, its most solemn proceeding, pays its last sad tribute of respect to the worthy dead, and resolves :

1st. That Past Grand Master James McCaleb Wiley was, in all the elements which constitute "a true and trusty Mason," eminently such; by his life he adorned the noble and holy principles of our order; and his death, though occurring in the ripeness of age, produces feelings of profound grief in the hearts of his brethren, who realize the severing of those tender ties of brotherhood which had bound us together for so many long years.

We met Bro. Wiley near thirty years ago, and spent a day with him very much to our Masonic profit. In 1856 we had the pleasure of commissioning him as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota near that of Alabama.

We most heartily sympathize with the brethren of Alabama.

The Committee on Appeals had a large amount of business before them; one of the cases was an appeal from an unaffiliated Mason, who had preferred charges against a member of a lodge, for "dishonesty in a business" transaction :

The lodge voted Smyley not guilty, under the specifications, but, on motion, decided that he should suffer a penalty of a reprimand for "drinking too much."

The committee recommended—

1st. That the Grand Lodge take no action on the appeal of S. S. Strickland.

2d. That there be adopted an edict declaring in unmistakable terms whether or not the right of appeal from the decision of any lodge is possessed by any other than active members of said lodge.

Which was concurred in by the Grand Lodge, and the second resolution referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

We present three extracts from the report of the committee :

"That a woman who has been divorced from her husband is not a competent witness against him in a Masonic tribunal, as to matters or things which transpired during coverture," the committee recommend an exception in cases of *injuries to her person*.

\* \* \* \* \*

"The written testimony used in a court of law or chancery cannot be used as evidence in a Masonic trial, except by the consent of the parties thereto," the committee instruct me to report as an additional clause, the following: "Or when the witness is dead, having been cross-examined."

\* \* \* \* \*

The committee are unanimously of the opinion "that a non-affiliated Mason *cannot* take an appeal from the decision of a subordinate lodge to the Grand Lodge *unless he be the party defendant*."

The Committee on Grievances had the following case before them:

In one of the lodges, the W. M. after the opening, stated that unless Bro. —, a visitor, was made to leave the lodge room, he himself would be forced to withdraw. The visitor demanded to know the reason, which the W. M. refused to assign. The visitor complained to his own lodge and desired an investigation.

The committee of the Grand Lodge reported:

The right of visitation to another lodge is not absolute in a Mason simply because he is a brother in good standing. It may be denied him without any reason being assigned, and without infringing upon his Masonic rights and privileges. As this is the most that was done in this case, your committee deem that he has no right to an investigation.

Bro. Beers presents us with a report covering one hundred and ninety pages, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-five Grand Lodges, four and a half pages are devoted to Minnesota.

Of our action on the colored question, he says:

We thank our brethren of Minnesota for as full (perhaps the fullest) and exhaustive a written discussion of this question as we have met with in our search for light in this *darkness*. We certainly have read no abler or more interesting arguments on the subject than are presented in the committee reports.

\* \* \* \* \*

Few bodies have discussed the subject more elaborately and more intelligently, and the conclusion reached by our Minnesota brethren as indicated by the vote was almost unanimous.

\* \* \* \* \*

The proceedings, extending through three days, are generally interesting



and impress us favorably with the intelligence and industry of the members composing this Grand Lodge and jurisdiction. We hope that we shall not again, as was the case last year, miss this report from our table.

In reply to our claim of cousinship—if he was of “Jersey stock”—he says, that he—

Claims to be of an *improved* “stock,” derived from a cross of NEW ENGLAND (CONNECTICUT) on GEORGIA (first descent from VIRGINIA) *i. e.* “PURITAN” on “CAVALIER,” a very excellent cross, indeed, and likely by *judicious encouragement* to produce splendid results.

We endorse the last proposition—evidence, the report before us. Under the head of Mississippi, he says :

Masonry may claim to be, and is, a religion in binding together those who can and do “acknowledge God as an object of worship, love and obedience,” and this is all that the term implies, nor does such union or association suggest, in the least, a neglect of that dispensation the Christian, which our brother of Mississippi evidently thinks is the only true faith and alone worthy to be designated as a religion ; but, unfortunately, the lexicons (and world of letters as well) do not so restrict the term. Masonry may be “human in all respects,” but before Abraham was, it had proclaimed its gospel of love and unity to man, and taught allegiance to God, commissioning its priests, from whom even Melchisedek took orders, and preparing the way for every dispensation of light and truth which has dawned upon our darkness and gladdened our spiritual yearnings all “adown the tide of time.” If it be not of God, it exists by Divine permission, and who can say what agency it shall hereafter exert in combating error and sustaining those who are yet to engage in the struggle for truth against principalities and powers. If its origin was human “there is a Divinity that shapes its ends,” nor are they roughly hewed at our will and pleasure. “God disposes.”

M. . W. . Henry Clay Armstrong, of Suspension, was elected Grand Master ; and

R. . W. . Daniel Sayre, of Montgomery, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Oliver S. Beers, of Mobile, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

### ARKANSAS, 1877.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas was held at Little Rock, October 8th, 9th and 10th, 1877.

M. W. M. M. McGuire, G. M., presiding.

Seventy-eight lodges represented.

Three hundred and forty-nine on the roll.

Eight under dispensation.

From the excellent address of the Grand Master, we select—

We thank heaven for a favored land and for our loved State, where, under good government, we peacefully enjoy the blessings God has given us, and worship Him according to the dictates of our own conscience. No fanaticism curses our country; no political despot shackles our limbs or fetters our free thought and free speech; every man thinks and acts for himself on all great questions of church and State, and gives utterances to his views; all are alike protected in person and property, and each pursues his own will in the gaining of happiness or the acquirement of wealth. With such a state of affairs, we, as Masons, join our voices with the cordial invitations now going out from our State to the people of more densely populated sections, and say to the home seeker, come to Arkansas and be welcome, live happy with us and grow rich by honest industry; come and join in with us in our Masonic labors, help us to build up our grand enterprises, and make our State as famous for its moral and intellectual advancement, and its refining society influences in the future, as it was reported years ago (often unjustly) for wickedness and the supremacy of the baser passions.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

2. Has a lodge the right to charge a fee for a dimit?

It has not. The law says he must be square upon the books.

\* \* \* \* \*

8. A lodge has the right to raise or to reduce the annual or quarterly dues it charges against its members, without consulting the Grand Lodge.

\* \* \* \* \*

12. A brother dies; in ten days another brother dies; the lodge passes resolutions in each case to wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days. Shall the members wear two badges, one for each deceased brother during twenty days?

One badge at a time is sufficient for one brother or for twenty.

\* \* \* \* \*

14. The reception of the Past Master's degree in a chapter. confers no authority on the brother to preside in a Master's lodge. Symbolic Masonry is not dependent on capitular Masonry to furnish it with qualified officers for the government of the craft.

\* \* \* \* \*

19. Entered Apprentices are not limited. If they change their residence, and wish to be finished up in another lodge, they procure a certificate from their lodge granting permission to another lodge to "pass" and "raise," if acceptable to it.

\* \* \* \* \*

20. The special Masonic claims of the "widow and orphan" on the fraternity, are based upon their family relationship to a brother of the institution; and depend, first, upon his good standing; and, secondly, on their own acts. The "widow," by a second marriage, ceases to be a widow and becomes a wife, perchance of another brother, or of a profane, and, through her new family relationship must base her future claims; by her own act, the previous relationship having been severed. Likewise the daughter, as the "orphan" of a Mason, when she arrives at the years of maturity and marries, sets up a new family relationship, and may then possess claims as a wife, if her husband should be a Mason; if a profane, she has none greater than is due to her sex at large, she having, by her own act, forfeited her original claims on the institution.

After considerable discussion, the following was adopted:

*Therefore, resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Arkansas hereby recognizes the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory as a sovereign and independent Grand Lodge, and to her, as such, extends fraternal greeting.

The Committee on Masonic Law and Usage had the following question presented:

1. Has a lodge in this State the right to affiliate a dimit ted Master Mason, who resides in another State?

And the Committee answer:

1. When a man wishes to be made a Mason, the Masonic law selects for him the lodge to which he must apply—the particular family by which he must be adopted, if acceptable to them as a member—and that is the lodge within whose territorial jurisdiction he resides. After he has become a Master Mason he can select for himself the lodge, or particular Masonic family, with which he prefers to affiliate, and may affiliate with a lodge out of the State of his residence if there is no regulation of the Grand Lodge to whose jurisdiction such lodge belongs, prohibiting it.

A further extract from the report:

We do not concur in the remark of the M. W. Grand Master, that "the Past Master's degree is a modern innovation, accepted by usage, but wholly unsupported by law."

The order of Past Master, as conferred in convocations upon Masters elect, is as old and as constitutional as any degree in Masonry.

As a chapter degree it is American, adopted as part of our caputular system nearly a hundred years ago, as above observed, and is made by the constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States and the constitutions of the State Grand Chapters a regular degree.

\* \* \* \* \*

It is important for a man to have a good heart and a tolerably good head to be made a Mason, but legs and feet, and arms and hands are also im-

portant and indispensable, and wood, or cork, and metal, will not supply the place of flesh and bone, nerves and muscles.

We sympathize with men who have been so unfortunate as to lose their limbs, but we cannot make Masons of all men for whom our sympathies are aroused.

Bro. Geo. E. Dodge presented a report on Foreign Correspondence embracing a review of the proceedings of thirty-eight Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

We hope Bro. Dodge will not think that we do not appreciate his report because we make no extracts; the fact is, that we desire to make this report very brief, and to that end shall be obliged to omit much, very much that it would afford us pleasure to present to the brethren of this jurisdiction.

M. W. John F. Hill, of Clarksville, was elected Grand Master; and

R. W. L. E. Barber, of Little Rock, re-elected Grand Secretary.

### CONNECTICUT, 1878.

The Nineteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut was held at Hartford, January 16th and 17th, 1878.

M. W. Edward B. Rowe, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and ten lodges represented.

One hundred and nineteen on the roll.

The Grand Master announced the death of P. G. M. Geo. F. Daskam, which event occurred at Norwalk, Dec. 28th, 1877.

We knew Bro. Daskam, well, having made his acquaintance in 1852, he was at that time Grand Junior Deacon. We most sincerely sympathize with our brethren of Connecticut in their loss.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

III. That suspension from Masonry, for non-payment of dues, without trial, is a violation of its laws, and cannot be permitted in this jurisdiction. The only penalty that can be inflicted for such offense is "to strike from the roll."

IV. *Question.* Can a subordinate lodge re-instate an expelled Mason?  
*Answer.* No. A subordinate lodge may request the Grand Lodge so to do, or the expelled brother may petition the Grand Lodge to restore him, having given notice of his intent to the lodge which expelled him.

The Grand Lodge restores only to rights in Masonry, and membership can be acquired only by petition and clear ballot.

V. That the word "Yes" or "No" written upon paper is a ballot, and is valid.

VI. That a man with so much of an infirmity as to incapacitate him from receiving a proper knowledge of the degrees, and complying with the necessary requirements, cannot be made a Mason.

VII. That the members of a lodge under dispensation are only those whose names appear upon the petition, and a lodge under dispensation has no authority except to make Masons.

VIII. *Question.* Can a lodge discipline a brother for selling intoxicating liquors, or prohibit him from so doing, when he is breaking no law of the land?

*Answer.* No. It is recommended that lodges use their utmost influence to suppress the sale and use of ardent spirits by their members, but it is beyond their province to legislate upon the subject.

\* \* \* \* \*

X. That a lodge cannot absolve a brother from his Masonic obligations. If the brother, from conscientious motives, wishes to withdraw from his lodge, he must apply for a dimit, and having obtained the same, quit the society of Masons.

\* \* \* \* \*

XIV. The removal of a brother out of a given jurisdiction, while charges are pending against him, does not abate such charges, or affect the jurisdiction of his lodge over him in investigating them.

They have in Connecticut a Masonic Association known as the "veterans." At "the seventh annual re-union," held June 27th, 1877, there were present forty members whose ages averaged over 75 years each.

The following "Standing Resolution" was repealed:

34. That any brother who shall hereafter, or may have been heretofore stricken from the roll of any subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction, shall not be permitted to visit any lodge in this State while under such disability.

Resolutions of that character are better off, than on the statute book, particularly when not enforced, and we have yet to learn of the first lodge any where, that uniformly paid attention to them.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the able pen of Bro. J. K. Wheeler, who re-appears among the M. A. S., after an absence of two years. We give him a hearty welcome to his old place. The report embraces a review of the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

Under the head of New Hampshire, we find a paragraph in which we say *concurro* :

Perhaps it might have been better, and if the lodges would consent to go back fifty years, and conduct their lodge matters as they were then, they could get along without dues; but with the present ideas of fine halls and furniture, and all the necessary equipments, \* \* money becomes indispensable.

Also, to a paragraph under the head of West Virginia :

The Grand Master says some very sensible words in reference to making lodge meetings more attractive, and not depend upon work alone as the only incentive to stimulate the brethren to attend. Active minds require something new—new fields must be opened; something interesting and instructive must be provided, for a constant repetition of the ritual will eventually fail to satisfy all the demands of men who are seeking for light; and no greater field can be entered, than a research into the history, philosophy and symbolism of this ancient fraternity.

M. . W. . Dwight Phelps, of West Winstead, was elected Grand Master; and

R. . W. . Joseph K. Wheeler, of Hartford, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee.

### CALIFORNIA. 1877.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of California was held at San Francisco. October 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th, 1877.

M. . W. . John M. Browne, G. . M. ., presiding.

One hundred and seventy-seven lodges represented.

One hundred and ninety-nine on the roll.

Four under dispensation.

From the "message" of the Grand Master, we select :

A lodge of Masons, as a lodge, will only appear in a funeral procession when it shall conduct the ceremonies; it will not appear, even as an escort, when the funeral services are performed by other societies or appendant orders. The lodge conducting the ceremonies is entitled to the post of honor in the procession, at the left of the line, and nearest the body of the deceased; other lodges in the same jurisdiction take position in the line in accordance with their Grand Lodge number; the lodge may invite or permit other bodies to join in the procession as escort or otherwise, and will

assign their position, which must invariably be in advance of the lodge performing the service; after the lodge has completed its services it cannot prevent services that may be performed by other societies or appendant orders, but it retires and does not participate therein.

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That the act of preferring charges against a brother elected to office would not debar him from being installed, as he cannot thereby be deprived of any of his Masonic privileges, it being understood that a valid objection to the installation of an officer-elect is guaranteed by usage and the installation formula. The brother must be presumed to be innocent until proven guilty, therefore the pendency of charges does not disqualify for installation, as the trial can occur afterwards.

A case happened where a member of a lodge was in prison awaiting trial on the charge of murder. I was asked if the lodge should at once proceed to have charges preferred against the prisoner. I answered that there was no necessity for a Masonic trial until after a trial was had in a civil court, since, with a charge so grave, the former could not have the facilities in procuring witnesses as would pertain to the latter, and there was no occasion for an undue haste. If the civil court convicted, then the accused could be tried *ex parte*, represented, if desired, by his counsel, as conviction in a civil court does not lessen the necessity of a Masonic trial; if acquitted, he could be brought before the lodge for trial.

\* \* \* \* \*

By many the institution is regarded as a convenient means whereby the creditor can force payment from his debtor, awarding to it the character of a collector, and moreover a general insurance against the mistakes of trade. A Masonic court cannot take the place of, or conflict with, a civil court; it does not establish civil rights, and its highest penalty is expulsion; it is content to give judgment on matters relating to its own affairs and offenses against the laws of morality, but it does not recognize difficulties of a legal character arising from business transactions, nor does it entertain charges for the purpose of adjusting legal rights, unless such charges shall specify fraud. The lodge is not the place to adjudicate accounts of commercial transactions, and charges partake too much of a criminal proceeding to be entertained in the settlement of business difficulties. A like matter ought never to be brought before the lodge; it is not in order; the complaining party should be told that the court-room is the proper place to institute lawsuits—and so I advised the Masters.

This leads to the notice of another error committed by Masons, an error of prevalence, that of frequently giving and receiving the word or pledge of a Mason in an useless and an unnecessary manner and on occasions of little or no importance. The word of a Mason ought to be equal to his bond, and called forth only in matters of import; it should never be given without deliberation, and when given should be steadfastly kept, for a thoughtless pledge heedlessly broken is without reason, unfortunate and foolish, and deserves censure.

The habit too many have of ostentatiously giving a sign or a grip in mixed social associations, publicly boasting of being a Mason, doing all things "on the square," and wearing conspicuous emblems, when without



the information necessary to give an intelligent interpretation of their meaning, should be discouraged in manner and terms indicative of displeasure, and a continued effort made for the correction of these unhappy faults which are calculated to bring reproach upon the fraternity and lessen its influence for the accomplishment of good.

Why should a Mason make use of expressions interlarded with profanity that would not be tolerated in polite society? Can he believe that the use of profane language adds force to a declaration, makes it more convincing, or renders an argument more persuasive or logical? I think not, and if I think rightly may it not be asserted that this is a serious defect, an unwise and useless habit?

Masonic pledges are sometimes given in political matters, and, whether broken or not, should be equally frowned upon as subversive of propriety and displaying an ignorance of the purpose of Masonry. Living by a law unto itself, espousing no party, sect, nor creed, seeking no outward favors or patronage, independent of foreign power, and laboring for common good, Masonry was not created, nor is it kept up, for political or pecuniary purposes. The sooner brethren become aware that Masonry is incompatible with politics and business operations the better; the sooner they manifest their displeasure at this inharmonious mixture the better; the sooner they stop the reckless pledging of Masonic faith and "communicating on the square" the better; for until this be done we shall have this foolish yet hurtful inconsistency, and suffer within and without from its demoralizing tendency. These things, it seems to me, are not enough considered among us, and for their avoidance it is hardly necessary to legislate, as the best and most effectual remedy is to be found in the discouragement, displeasure, and reproof displayed by the brethren.

The Grand Secretary reported that—

Returns from all the lodges had been received, and that there dues had all been paid.

We notice a new official title. In a note the Grand Secretary says:

The usual afternoon session of to-day was dispensed with in consequence of the invitation accepted by the Grand Lodge yesterday from the *V. E. Grand Clam-Baker*, Bro. George T. Bromley, to attend a clam and fish-chowder festival across the Bay of San Francisco.

We present selections from the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence:

V. When does withdrawal from a lodge become complete; and when does its jurisdiction cease?

In the one case the Grand Master decided that when the lodge had, at the request of one of its members, voted him a recommendatory certificate, it could not, at a subsequent meeting, by a reconsideration of its action,



restore him to membership; and in the other case that, when a member of a lodge had withdrawn and removed to the jurisdiction of another lodge, the first named lodge could not entertain charges against him.

Our constitution recognizes the right of every Mason to withdraw from membership in a lodge. All he has to do is to pay his dues and notify his lodge, at a stated meeting, that he withdraws from its membership. The very moment that he makes such payment and gives such notice he ceases to be a member. Whether the lodge will recommend him by certificate to the fraternity as a worthy brother, is a matter for the lodge to determine; and when membership has been severed, it can be restored only by petition and election in the way provided for affiliation.

A lodge has jurisdiction to hear and determine charges against its own members wherever they may reside, and against all Masons residing within its territorial limits.

\* \* \* \* \*

VIII. The Grand Master decided that all reports of committees upon petitions must be in writing, and that a ballot was properly had when two members of a committee made a favorable report in writing, although a member of the lodge, at the request of the third member of the committee, who was absent, presented an unfavorable verbal report.

It was the duty of the absent member to make his own report and to make it in writing, and he could not delegate the performance of that duty to another.

\* \* \* \* \*

The lodge conducting the ceremonies will occupy the post of honor, and will assign such positions to other societies that may join in the procession or ceremonies as the circumstances of the case may seem to render proper. The members of a lodge may join in the procession as citizens when the ceremonies are conducted by other organizations, but the lodge can only appear on such occasions when the ceremonies are under its direction.

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SIXTH. Relative to a new regulation proposed by Bro. Hiram N. Rucker, which is in the following language:

"It shall be the duty of all Masters of subordinate lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of California, to require of all Masons, residing within the jurisdiction of their respective lodges and claiming membership within other jurisdictions, to show a receipt for dues once in six months, or oftener, as evidence of good standing."

If such a regulation were adopted it would impose a very onerous and unpleasant duty on our Masters, and it might suggest the inquiry whether we had any business of our own to attend to.

When a Mason from another jurisdiction comes to this State, with the purpose of making it his permanent residence, it is fitting that he should, and in most cases he will, withdraw from membership there and become a member of some lodge here; but if he chooses, for any reason, to retain his membership in the other jurisdiction, he has the undoubted right to do so. Whether he pays his dues or not concerns the lodge of which he is a member, and does not concern us. If he maintains his good standing as

a Mason elsewhere, he is entitled to the courtesies extended to Masons in good standing here.

\* \* \* \* \*

1. Has a lodge the right to question the worthiness of one of its members, asking for relief, in any way except by the preferring of charges and a trial?

2. Has the charity committee of a lodge the right to inquire, in such a case, further than to determine whether there is actual need of help?

3. When a member of a lodge, at one of its regular meetings, moves that the lodge grant relief to one of its members in distress, is it within the discretion of the Master to refuse to entertain the motion? and

4. Was Occidental Lodge, No. 22, guilty of a Masonic offense when, having the ability, it refused to aid Bro. Downing?

The case presents some remarkable features. It is certainly remarkable that a Mason should continue in full membership with a lodge for fifteen years, and that no inquiry should be made as to his moral fitness until, by a sudden misfortune, he is rendered helpless and compelled to call for assistance. The common instincts of humanity should then impell us to forget his faults and delinquencies and to tender such aid as his necessities require. If we can afford to overlook his offenses against the moral law when he is hale and strong and amply able to provide for himself, it certainly is not the part of manhood to begin to speer out his faults when misfortune has overtaken him and he is helpless. It is a good maxim, which has come down to us from the generous and brave old Saxons, that every man is to be deemed innocent until he be proven guilty, and until his guilt has been established by the judgment of some proper tribunal.

When Bro. Downing applied to his lodge for relief, his name was on its roll as a member in good standing, and the only inquiry then to be made by the lodge, or by its charity committee, was whether he was in actual distress; and if found so to be, the duty to relieve him was plain and imperative, and it was a duty for the neglect of which it is hard to conceive a plausible excuse. It is no excuse for the lodge, in this neglect of its first duty, to say that the applicant had been dissipated, had squandered his estate, and, through his own folly, reduced himself to penury. That is a specious pretext—not an excuse.

\* \* \* \* \*

Their only duty is to ascertain if the member is in actual need, and if they find that he is, they are to relieve him. Your committee are of the opinion that it is the right of every member of a lodge to move, at any one of its meetings, that the lodge relieve the distress of any one of its own members, and that it is not within the discretion of the Master to refuse to entertain such a motion; and they are also of the opinion that Occidental Lodge was guilty of a flagrant offense when, under the circumstances, it refused to render any assistance to Bro. Downing, and that that lodge should be required to make prompt amends, so far as it may, for the wrong done and for its wanton disregard of one of its plainest and most imperative Masonic duties.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, prepared by Bro. W. H. Hill, fully sustains his high reputation as a reporter. The report embraces a review of the proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

M.·. W.·. John Mills Browne, M. D., Vallejo, was re-elected Grand Master; and

R.·. W.·. Alexander G. Abell, San Francisco, re-elected Grand Secretary.

### COLORADO, 1878.

The Eighteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Colorado was held at Denver, September 17th and 18th, 1878.

M.·. W.·. Cornelius J. Hart, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Twenty-one Lodges represented.

Thirty-two on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

An "Emergent Communication" of the Grand Lodge was held August 5th, 1878, at Denver, "to confer Masonic burial rites upon the remains of M.·. W.·. Bro. Geo. E. Lounsbury, P.·. G.·. M.·. of Illinois."

Transactions of local interest.

We quote a few passages from the elegant oration of Bro. George Wallace, delivered before the Grand Lodge:

1. Negatively, Masonry is not an atheistic institution. The candidate who knocks at her door must have firmly rooted in his soul the unwavering belief in one Supreme intelligent Power, as Creator of the heavens and the earth.

2. It is not an *infidel organization*. A belief in the divinity of the Holy Scriptures is fundamental in the moral conviction of every man, as an honest Mason. A standard authority, in his text book, says: "The first step taken by a candidate on entering a lodge of Freemasons, teaches him the pernicious tendency of infidelity.

3. It is not a political society. No man seeking admission to membership is questioned as to whether he is republican or democrat in his politics. Yet one thing we must admit as true, namely: Every novitiate is taught to be a quiet and peaceable citizen, true to the government, and just to the country; to discountenance disloyalty and rebellion, and to submit to the properly appointed legal authorities.

This fact rebukes the slander that it (Masonry) is "*dangerous to government.*"

4. It is not a reform society. In this particular it is entirely unlike many other organizations. Both the letter and the spirit of the institution forbid every effort to induce vicious men to amend by securing the helpful influence of Masonry. As an organization it is entirely negative, as far as reform measures are concerned. Masonry may, and ought to be active in every good reform movement; but as far as the lodge, or as an institution, is concerned, this is not its mission. This will appear more fully hereafter.

5. And positively, it is a moral and religious institution. We shall establish the truth of this proposition beyond the possibility of a doubt in the mind of every intelligent and candid person in this house.

All well-built structures have a good foundation. The first stone in the Masonic temple has God for its basis. The first step in the Masonic pilgrimage inculcates prayer as a necessity for guidance and protection. The lesson of the ritual is, that we are never to commence any great or important work without first invoking the blessing of Deity.

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We have often been asked, (and the question has been put in such a manner as to convey the impression that the thing inquired after was true,) are not Masons bound to protect and defend each other, whether right or wrong, guilty or innocent? I have seen this question put in positive form, in the shape of an affirmative in printed books, whose ostensible Godly purpose was to expose the *black angel Masonry*. Now let me say for the benefit of all present, that it is quite unmasonic to indulge in hard and ungentlemanly replies to any low dog that may be found so destitute of good training as to *snarl* and *foam* and paw the ground, and threaten to injure the person and character of any Masonic Christian gentleman. The Great Master said, "Return not railing for railing;" and every well-taught Mason has learned the same lesson.

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The true Masonic teaching is this: Every Mason is under the most solemn obligation to protect and defend the person and character of every other Mason, just as far as *truth*, *honor* and *justice* will warrant, and not a step farther.

No Mason is ever required to defend or protect in any degree beyond the limits prescribed in the divine law of equity uttered at the base of Mount Sinai.

If a brother voluntarily deals falsely or violates any of the laws of his country, you are not to shield him from the punishment justly his due. "But if a brother should fall into error, your duty is plain: you are not to magnify his faults, but spread the mantle of charity over them, and direct your efforts to reclaim him to virtue and manliness." And let me ask, is not this the precise law of Christianity, as laid down by the Master for all his disciples to observe and practice?

The report on Foreign Correspondence embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included—was presented by Bro. Lawrence N. Greenleaf, a new

reporter. The report is a good one, but we have a suggestion to make. Some years since, Bro. Corson, of N. J., took exception to the size of the type used in the printing of the Mississippi proceedings. Bro. Patton recommended a microscope, Corson next gave a description of the said microscope with directions for its use. We suggest to Bro. Greenleaf to get the—description, we opine that he at times requires—an eye opener of some kind, he says “Colorado unfortunately having ‘failed to connect.’” If he will refer to page 119 Minn. Proc. 1878, he will find that Colorado *did* connect.

M. W. Roger W. Woodbury, of Denver, was elected Grand Master; and

R. W. Ed. C. Parmelee, of Georgetown, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Edward H. Collins, of Denver, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

#### DELAWARE, 1877.

The Seventy-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Delaware was held at Wilmington, October 3d and 4th, 1877.

M. W. Thomas Williams, G. M., presiding.

Twenty-two lodges represented.

Twenty-nine on the roll.

We endorse the following extract from the report of the Grand Secretary, and commend its careful consideration to the lodges in this jurisdiction:

I desire to call the attention of the subordinate lodges to the importance of securing and retaining in office, faithful and efficient secretaries. It insures a more correct and prompt attention to their duties, enables them to become familiar with the business of the office, and would go far towards preventing mistakes like the above occurring. Frequent changes of secretaries are prejudicial to the best interests of the lodge.

We present a decision of the Deputy Grand Master—sustained by the Grand Lodge—on a question which has caused some difficulty in this jurisdiction:

While a lodge is working under dispensation, the mother lodge undoubtedly retains control over all her members so uniting and working, and is

competent to exact from them dues and all lawful requirements. As soon as said lodge is chartered, the authority of the mother lodge ceases, for by virtue of the charter, the new lodge is made of equal dignity in all its rights and privileges, with the old; one of the most important of which (as upon it depends its very existence) is the right to hold and acquire members.

I hold it to be a sound principle of Masonic law that the act of chartering a lodge, under dispensation, by the Grand Lodge, must per force carry with it the transfer of membership of the brethren so working, from their old lodge, to the newly chartered one, if they so elect and accept, consequently, the act of charter, renders a formal dimit unnecessary, as it is by superior authority of the Grand Lodge the transfer is made.

No report on Foreign Correspondence, P.: G.: M.: Chaytor was chairman. The following resolutions explain his absence :

*Resolved*, That we sincerely regret the absence of our venerable and highly esteemed Past Grand Master George W. Chaytor, from the floor of the Grand Lodge, as he has been a regular attender for so many years, and took such an active part in the business of the Grand Lodge.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three Past Grand Masters be appointed to convey to Bro. P.: G.: M.: Chaytor, our sympathy and regret at his absence.

A letter from the Grand Secretary notifies us that George W. Chaytor died April 14th, 1878, in his sixty-fifth year. He was initiated in 1841, was elected Master of his lodge in 1843, Grand Secretary in 1849, and Grand Master in 1875, and was for a number of years Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

We made the acquaintance of Bro. Chaytor in 1852, and in 1856 appointed him as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota near that of Delaware, which commission he held at the time of his decease.

M.: W.: Thomas N. Williams, of Seaford, was re-elected Grand Master ; and

R.: W.: William S. Hayes, of Wilmington, re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1877.

The Sixty-seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge

of the District of Columbia was held at Washington, November 14th, 1877.

M. W. E. G. Davis, G. M., presiding.

Twenty lodges represented.

Twenty-five on the roll.

The address of the Grand Master is a brief business paper; he reported "a case of rather peculiar nature that has arisen in" one of the lodges. A petition for initiation was received, referred to a committee, a favorable report was made; on the request of *a visitor* the ballot was postponed; subsequently a protest against said candidate "receiving the degrees of Masonry, signed by thirteen Master Masons in good standing, members in different lodges, was presented to" the lodge, and referred to the same investigating committee. Subsequently and prior to the time for the committee to report, a protest was presented to the Grand Master signed by five members of the Grand Lodge, "alleging that from information received, they believe that a favorable report would be made and the candidate received," &c., and urging the Grand Master's interposition. Subsequently the committee did make a favorable report—the Grand Master being present in the lodge—but the ballot was postponed upon request of a member of the lodge. The matter was referred to the Judiciary Committee, we find no report.

The report will be interesting as involving several important questions, as will readily present themselves to thinking Masons.

We present an extract from the report of the Grand Lecturer:

The condition of the several lodges in this jurisdiction during the past year has been quite varied as regards work; in some only a single block has been added to the structure; in others, more than a dozen have been completed in the most exquisite style, and raised by the most perfect workmanship, to the level on which the greatest and best of men in all ages have been proud to teach.

"The grammar rules instruct the tongue and pen,  
Rhetoric teaches eloquence to men;  
By logic we are taught to reason well,  
Music has charms beyond our powers to tell;  
The use of numbers numberless find,  
Geometry gives measures to mankind,  
The heavenly system elevates the mind.  
All those, and many more,  
The Masons taught in days of yore."



Therefore, as a whole, I am happy to be able to report the lodges in a healthy condition, because harmony, which is beauty, is the presiding gem through the length and breadth of our jurisdiction.

Bro. W. R. Singleton presented a report on Foreign Correspondence embracing a notice of the proceedings of fifty-one Grand Lodges, among which Minnesota has a place.

Bro. Singleton has proved himself a capital hand at writing at a mark. By resolution, the Grand Lodge—very unwisely in our judgment—prescribed the length of the report, limiting it to one page to each Grand Lodge.

We sympathize with Bro. Singleton, we know he must have felt mighty unpleasant when pouring over some of the proceedings, finding matter that was not only interesting, but actually instructive, and valuable, and yet he could not incorporate it, hampered as he was in the limits of a report. Well, if the members of his Grand Lodge can stand it, outsiders can.

M. W. E. G. Davis, Grand Master; and

R. W. W. R. Singleton, Grand Secretary—both of Washington—were re-elected.

## FLORIDA, 1878.

The Forty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida was held at Jacksonville, January 8th, 9th and 10th, 1878.

M. W. Enos Wasgate, G. M., presiding.

Fifty-three lodges represented.

Eighty-two on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The Grand Master announced the death of P. G. M. Samuel Benezet, which event occurred February 21st, 1877.

The Grand Master said:

He was G. J. W. in 5849, D. G. M. in 5855, and M. W. G. M. in 5865. He has left a record that many of us might well aspire to emulate. The last known act of his life was one of disinterested charity.

P. G. M. Benezet was a brother of P. M. J. F. Benezet, a member of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 5, of this jurisdiction.

Among the decisions reported, we note:



Question—A. B. petitions the lodge for the degrees in Masonry Bro. C. D. promises the lodge to see it paid, but has never done so. Bro. C. D. is elected to the office of Worshipful Master. Would it be proper to install him?

Answer—I must call your attention to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, Article 10, Section 23, where you will find that the fee for initiation must accompany the petition, and that the fee for passing and raising must be paid before the degree is conferred. No brother has any right to become responsible for these fees unless he does it with his money, and if the lodge accepts his promise instead of the money, they violate the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. If, after the brother has promised to pay the lodge certain moneys, and is able to do so, he neglects or refuses to do it, he is liable to discipline, but until proceedings are commenced, he must be considered in good standing, and if elected, should be installed, unless charges be preferred.

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Question—A brother petitions for affiliations and presents a dimit from a lodge several years defunct, must we charge him dues from the date of his dimit, as some of the brethren claim that the Grand Lodge will require dues of unaffiliates?

Answer—Neither the lodge or Grand Lodge has any right to charge him dues for the time he held his dimit.

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A brother made in a lodge U. D. has all the rights and privileges of the original petitioner, and when the lodge is chartered becomes one of the charter members.

A lodge U. D. cannot affiliate Masons, but if all the petitioners desire it the Grand Master can grant their request and order his name placed on their roll. A certificate must, however, be sent to this office that his dues are paid in the lodge of which he is a member, or his dimit if he comes from another Grand Jurisdiction.

A lodge U. D. must keep a complete record of their proceedings, and from that record the committee is to judge whether a charter should be granted.

When a charter issues to a lodge U. D. it severs the connection of the members with their former lodges, hence the necessity of all dues being paid up to the time when the charter is applied for.

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Question—Should the A. D. or the A. L. date be used in Masonic records?

Answer—The A. L. date should always be used, and I cannot see why there should be any objection to the A. D. also, as it has become so common throughout the world.

\* \* \* \* \*

Question—A M. M., and a member of a lodge in a neighboring State, dies in the jurisdiction of our lodge and is buried. Sometime afterward his funeral sermon was preached in the church at which the lodge of which

he was a member requests us to perform the funeral service. Would it be proper to do so?

Answer—Our funeral-service is intended to be used when the brother is buried. Where it is impossible to bury a worthy brother with Masonic honors, the lodge, of which he was a member, can meet in their lodge-room and hold a Lodge of Sorrow the first convenient opportunity afterward.

A large amount of business of local interest was transacted.

The enlargement of the Grand Lodge Library is receiving the earnest attention of the Grand Secretary.

M.·. W.·. William A. McLean, was elected Grand Master; and

R.·. W.·. DeWitt C. Dawkins, re-elected Grand Secretary, each of Jacksonville.

### GEORGIA, 1877.

The Ninety-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia was held at Macon, October 31st and November 1st, 1877.

M.·. W.·. David E. Butler, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Two hundred and thirty-eight lodges represented.

Three hundred and ten on the roll.

A new Constitution was adopted, and a large amount of business transacted, but we find nothing of special interest to report to the craft in this jurisdiction.

Relative to Foreign Correspondence reports, the Grand Master says:

The absence of a report of this committee is, to say the least, of doubtful propriety. That some of the reports heretofore made were needlessly long is true, but that mistake may be avoided. Perhaps the trouble arose by assigning the duty of its preparation to different brethren too often; any learned brother who has prepared one would be better qualified to produce another. Without the committee we are virtually deprived of a knowledge concerning our sister Grand Lodges, which all well-informed Masons in Georgia desires to possess. I recommend the restoration of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in some form.

The suggestion was adopted, and a committee appointed, and we shall again receive light—as in the past—from Georgia.

M.·. W.·. James M. Mobley, of Hamilton, was elected Grand Master; and

R. W. J. Emmett Blackshear, of Macon, re-elected Grand Secretary.

P. G. M. Samuel Lawrence, of Atlanta, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

### INDIANA, 1878.

The Sixty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Indiana was held at Indianapolis, May 28th and 29th, 1878.

M. W. Andrew J. Hay, G. M., presiding.

Four hundred and eighty-four lodges represented.

Five hundred and forty-seven on the roll.

Five under dispensation.

We note one among the large number of decisions reported—

Can the Worshipful Master declare void an illegal action of the lodge, though a majority of the lodge be against him?

Yes. It is his duty to do so when an act of the lodge is clearly illegal. The Worshipful Master is the judge, not the lodge, and the Grand Lodge holds him responsible.

Under the head of Decrease in Membership, the Grand Master says:

Masonry has been too cheap and common. Cheap in the sense that it is no longer a valuable prize to be obtained only by those whose worth, moral as well as social, entitle them to its degrees. Common in the sense that it is within the reach of all who have the cash to pay in advance for its degrees, and are generally good fellows. Masonry was intended to be exclusive, not that any particular class of men were to be debarred from its privileges, but that while all were free to apply for its privileges, and the knowledge of a Divine Light and Truth, none should be accepted but those whose lives, character and standing in the community justified the conviction that they would be worthy members. The rapid growth in population of our country has induced the too frequent granting of charters to new lodges, and this in turn has induced an undue anxiety for a long roll of members; and that care which should characterize selection of applicants has been thrust aside in the race for material from which to obtain money to pay debts and build halls. No where can the old latin motto, "*Festina Lente*"—make haste slowly—be more truthfully applied than in the acquisition of initiates in Masonic lodges.

The Grand Master under the caption, "There is a Prince and great man fallen, this day in Israel," announced the decease of P. G. M. Harvey G. Hazelrigg, having occurred Decem-

ber 15th, 1877, aged seventy years. He was a constant attendant on the Grand Lodge for more than thirty years. We made Bro. Hazelrigg's acquaintance in 1856. He was a man of marked characteristics, of decided opinions, and fearless in expressing them, pleasant and agreeable in manner; he had a large influence in shaping the Masonic legislation of Indiana.

From the report of the Committee on Ways and Means upon petitions for remission of dues, because of loss by fire, we note:

1. That the custom of making such remissions, which has hitherto prevailed in this Grand Lodge, is not a good one.

2. It is the duty of each lodge to carry upon its property and furniture a proper amount of insurance to indemnify it against loss by fire, whenever such insurance can be obtained in a responsible company. The committee recommend that each lodge in this jurisdiction be requested so to do.

Bro. E. L. McLallen, submitted his report on Foreign Correspondence, when the following was adopted:

*Resolved*, That in consideration of the embarrassed condition of the treasury of the Grand Lodge, the preparation of the report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of other Grand Lodges, be dispensed with until otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master knowing that the report was one well worthy to be placed before the Masonic world, approved the publication of it, which Bro. McLallen did at his own expense. We are under obligations for a copy.

The report embraces a review of the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

Under the head of Kansas, he says:

We make answer and say, Bibles are to be believed by each and every one who will, and we belong to that large body of persons ourselves.

It is not against this that we object, nor have we ever intentionally said or written anything that would bear such an interpretation. Our motto in Masonry is the one imputed to David Crocket, "Be sure you are right, and then go ahead." We object to Texas Masons, or any other Masons, making any innovation in the body of Masonry. We object to their saying to candidates before initiation: "You must declare your belief in the divine authenticity of the Bible before you can enter our portals." Masonry, as we have conceived it, is universal cosmopolitan, requiring of its votaries a belief in God, an over ruling power and first cause; only this, and nothing more, of a religious character. Under this conception good men of all creeds, nationalities and climes may meet upon the checkered floor.

Masonry, of all associations under the sun, from time immemorial having had this universality, we object to having its usefulness narrowed to the bounds of a creed, though that creed be our own. We hold the Bible upon the altar to be the Masonic symbol of the revealed will of God (infallible to each man according to his creed) and believing it to be such revelation ourself, we do not hesitate to say that were we in a Mahommedan country we should accept the Koran in its stead as such symbol without question and in good conscience.

Under the head of Maryland, we find,—a confirmation of our practice in opening the Grand Lodge—

In answer to his enquiry touching our opening a lodge of Master Masons before opening the Grand Lodge, and which he is not the first to remark. we answer, it has been the usage of the Grand Lodge of Indiana since its organization, and much may be said in defense of the practice. Our authority for so doing is the same as Col. Ethan Allen had for storming Ticonderoga.

Under the head of Minnesota, he says :

The question of the lodges of colored men was again mooted considerably, in the way of a long report, which was referred, and in due season reported upon, the committee re-affirming Bro. Pierson's wise, conservative and out-spoken position, as adopted last year, as the sense of the Grand Lodge, and recommending that the subject be indefinitely postponed, in which report the Grand Lodge concurred.

Under the head of Nevada, he says :

The Masonic fraternity is not a Mutual Insurance Company; that charity which is to be repaid is no charity, but sordid, and unbefitting the name.

He says in his conclusion—

In no part of the world is Freemasonry so widely and generally diffused as in North America, where, by common consent, there exists a sort of international law between the numerous Grand Bodies. Each for itself has its code. Differing on minor points, they are of such general tenor as to banish strife and promote universal unity and fraternity.

\* \* \* \* \*

Reimbursement for assistance rendered to needy, sick or dying brethren, sojourning without their own jurisdictions, has been claimed recently in various quarters; not, as we think, sanctioned by the usage of the majority of the Grand Lodges, and as we think unwarranted by the spirit and tenure of the Masonic obligation; and we regard it as an innovation and a fashion "more honored in the breach than in the observance." We speak, of course, of the usual and ordinary calls for aid.

We join in his "feeling of regret"—

To you, Brother Foreigners, we now bid a hearty and fraternal adieu. Our work in the past three years in this department has begotten a feeling of personal acquaintanceship, and we own to a sincere feeling of regret at its conclusion.

M.·. W.·. Robert Van Valzah, of Terre Haute, was elected Grand Master ; and

R.·. W.·. William H. Smythe, of Indianapolis, was elected Grand Secretary.

### ILLINOIS, 1878.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Illinois was held at Chicago; October 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1878.

M.·. W.·. Joseph Robbins, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Six hundred and twenty-eight lodges represented.

Seven hundred and fifty-five on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The address of the Grand Master occupies thirty-nine pages of the proceedings; a large proportion is devoted to questions of discipline, and shows the Grand Master to have been intimately acquainted with the workings of the lodges in his jurisdiction.

Bro. Robbins was for a number of years the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, his readings and investigations of the multifarious questions noted during the several years found him well qualified to wrestle with the questions proposed to the Grand Master, and hence his opinions are entitled to more than ordinary weight.

On the subject of mixed funerals, he says :

A refusal to grant a dispensation to a lodge to join the funeral procession of one of its members, who, at its own request, was buried by an Odd Fellows' lodge, of which he was also a member, brought me a letter from a zealous and intelligent Past Master, and because I presume it to have reflected a feeling more or less widespread in the fraternity, I give here that portion of my reply which indicates the rule governing my action :

“The rule is that the lodge should not appear—as a lodge—on funeral occasions unless it appears for the purpose of Masonic labor, of which the rites of Masonic sepulture are a part. It bars no Mason from attending the funeral of a brother who is not buried with our services. On the contrary, unless the teachings of Masonry have been lost on its members, they ought to be more ready than others to honor the memory of one of their number

by their individual presence at his funeral, and especially in a case of this kind where it is known that the deceased especially desired their presence, although he did not desire to be buried with Masonic rites.

"To you, and to others it appears, my decision that a rule forbids a lodge to appear on a funeral occasion, except for the performance of the burial rites, seems to have been prompted by the fear that the dignity of the fraternity would suffer if the lodge was not accorded the 'first place,' and the rule itself to be rooted in the phariseism which says, 'Stand aside, I am holier than thou!'

"Of this it is sufficient to say that the rule is older than any of the organizations of an imitative character that have adopted forms of burial service of their own; and it is difficult to see how an assumption of superiority over the poor publican of the comparison could be imputed to the pharisee at a time when the poor publican did not exist.

"You say: 'We have buried a number of brethren, at which times the other societies have joined with us with a fraternal feeling; but when the case was different we could not reciprocate. Their charity is beyond ours.'

"Herein, I imagine, although not upon its surface, lies the key to the bad impression which you say the matter has created against Masonry in your neighborhood. If you will analyse the impression, I think you will find the complaint to be not so much that Masonry was disinclined to do honor to the memory of the deceased, as that it failed to do honor to some other society. In the cases that have come under my own observation, the real grievance has seemed to be that Masonry would not assimilate its practice to that of those modern growths which, unlike it, have received from the far past no legacy of unchangeable law. For myself, I do not regret that its laws are not elastic enough to permit it to become—or seem to become—a competitor with other societies for public *ecclat*. I would have it maintain its ancient rule of modest propriety which forbids it to thrust itself before the public in its organized capacity, unless there is a Masonic work to be done, and then only when solicited to do so by those who have a right to ask it.

"There may be instances, like that which gave rise to this correspondence, when our feelings lead us to wish that the law was more elastic, just as we do when the inflexible rule requiring physical fitness excludes some friend whom we feel to be otherwise so well qualified for the institution; but when we let our judgment rather than our feelings have sway, I think we shall conclude that in this, as in other things, it is not wise to break a salutary general rule to meet individual cases where for the moment its maintenance seems to us to work a hardship."

We notice a quiet way of informing a Grand Master of another jurisdiction that one of its by-laws was not in accord with the law of Masonry.

B. a resident of Idaho, when on a visit to Illinois, was the recipient of the first three degrees, on his return to Idaho, he was

refused admission to a lodge under the following Grand Lodge by-law :

Nor shall any lodge in this jurisdiction recognize any citizen of Idaho Territory who has been made a Mason outside the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge during his citizenship, unless by permission of the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resided.

In reply to the complaint of the Grand Master of Idaho, Grand Master Robbins says :

I informed M. W. Bro. Stevenson that I should at once order an investigation of the case in vindication of our own law, as well as our known position based on the broadest recognition of the doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction and of the comity which should characterize the relations of sister Grand Lodges; saying to him, however, that we did not view the act by which the Grand Lodge of Idaho assumed to deny the Masonic name and character to a Mason made in a regular lodge, chartered by a Grand Lodge with which it was in fraternal correspondence (unless such denial came as a sentence in punishment of an offense whereof such brother had been duly convicted) as being founded either in a proper inter-jurisdictional comity or the law of Masonry.

\* \* \* \* \*

If these statements are correct, the facts reflect severely upon the fitness of Rochester Lodge to be one of the local custodians of our laws and of the honor of our Grand Lodge; and show that at best it has been made the victim of fraud and misrepresentations under circumstances especially calculated to excite suspicion on the part of its officers and members.

It would be sufficiently humiliating to us that a man, even of an unblemished reputation, who had been absent from the State for a dozen years, returning for a brief visit, should, during his sojourn of only a few weeks, receive the degrees in one of our lodges on his bare statement that he still retained his citizenship in Illinois, and without inquiry on the part of the lodge as to his conduct during his long absence. It is doubly humiliating to find, that he whom the lodge so swiftly and recklessly made would have been rejected by any lodge where his recent life had been known, and this we are assured by Grand Master Stevenson is the case with Smith, who he says could not have obtained the degrees in any lodge in Idaho.

Another case involving the perpetual jurisdiction question :

It further appeared that within less than six months from the time of Farnsworth's removal from the jurisdiction of Edward Dobbin to the jurisdiction of Parkersburg Lodge, the last named lodge had received his petition, and on this action was based the claim of the former that there had been trespass upon its territorial jurisdiction.

The claim was not valid, as the removal of Farnsworth was conceded to have been *bona fide*, and on the instant of such removal the territorial jurisdiction—which is negative in its character—previously held over him by



Edward Dobbin Lodge, ceased, and it thereafter had no more claim upon him than if he had never been a resident of its territory.

Upon removing from its jurisdiction he ceased at once to be eligible as a candidate in any lodge, and a residence of six months in his new home was necessary to re-establish his eligibility.

Another, as to "Waiver of Jurisdiction"—

A brother had been initiated and passed in one lodge and raised in another, both claim his membership.

Upon investigation it appeared that an informal request of Golden Gate Lodge to confer upon Bro. Pitney the degree of Master Mason to which he had already been elected, was misconstrued by Monmouth Lodge as a waiver of jurisdiction, and that the last named lodge thereupon received Bro. Pitney's petition for, elected him to, and conferred upon him the third degree, and received his signature to its by-laws.

The records of Monmouth show that Golden Gate Lodge had granted it permission to receive his petition, but in my correspondence both lodges agreed that the conference on the subject had been between the Masters of the lodges.

Waiver of jurisdiction which would authorize another lodge to receive the petition of an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, can only be accomplished by unanimous formal action which must be certified to under seal.

The records of Golden Gate Lodge show that no such action was had; and in the absence of a properly attested certificate to invalidate their correctness, the records must be presumed to be correct.

I therefore decided that the jurisdiction of Golden Gate Lodge was never waived; that the action of Monmouth Lodge in receiving and acting upon the petition of Bro. Pitney was superfluous and void; that the lodge simply acted as the proxy of Golden Gate Lodge in conferring the degree, and that he could not therefore be a member of Monmouth Lodge, but stood in the same relation to Golden Gate Lodge as if he had been raised therein.

Lack of "Penal Jurisdiction:"

Upon investigation it was found that Bro. Thompson was a member of Mt. Pulaski Lodge, and resided at Elkhart; that he joined in a petition for a new lodge at that place, which was chartered as Elkhart Lodge, No. 545, in 1867, and duly constituted in October of that year, with Thompson as one of its charter members; and that on the 21st day of March, 1868, Mt. Pulaski Lodge assumed to suspend him indefinitely for non-payment of dues which had accrued against him prior to his dismission therefrom by the act of the Grand Lodge.

In the analagous case of Hutsonville Lodge vs. Leaman, it was held that compulsory process by a lodge to enforce the payment of dues, does not lie against a brother after he has ceased to be a member thereof. This rule was affirmed by the Grand Lodge.

The dimission of Thompson deprived Mt. Pulaski Lodge, No. 87, of all claim to exercise jurisdiction over him in any matter relating to membership only, to which category the non-payment of lodge dues clearly belongs.

Want of jurisdiction, therefore, rendered the act by which it assumed to suspend him, a nullity, and I decided that his standing in the Fraternity and in Elkhart Lodge was not affected thereby.

### “Masonry and Business :”

The obvious intention of this provision is that the lodge shall not be made a collecting agency, nor a tribunal for the adjudication of questions which are properly within the province of the civil courts. It is designed to prevent the mixing up of Masonry with commercial transactions between man and man, and is an emphatic denial of the assumption that there can be one system of commercial ethics for Masons in their dealings with each other, and another system for their dealings with those who are not Masons. It gives notice, therefore, that in its penal jurisprudence, when called upon to deal with difficulties of a legal character growing out of business transactions between brethren, Masonry will regard as indictable only such acts as render Masons and non-Masons alike amenable to the criminal law of the State. Hence the requirement that unless fraud is clearly specified such cases shall be thrown out.

Under this rule it is not enough that fraud shall be simply charged; it must be specified. Specific acts must be alleged, fraudulent on their face. In other words, acts must be specified which are necessarily and not simply possibly fraudulent. A single illustration will prevent the possibility of my being misunderstood. A failure to pay a debt according to promise might possibly, but need not necessarily, involve fraud; and a lodge would not, therefore, be justified in entertaining a charge of fraud where the specification set forth only a failure to pay according to promise. But if an alleged false schedule of assets, or a fraudulent conveyance to prevent the payment of a debt were specified, the charges would meet the requirements of the law.

The Grand Master refused to enter into representative relations with the Grand Orient of Spain,—among other things, he says :

The existence of a lodge anywhere that may lawfully administer the rites of Masonry, presupposes the existence of a Grand Lodge from which it has derived its warrant; and the existence of such Grand Lodge presupposes the prior existence of warranted lodges by whose representatives it was formed, and so on backward in unbroken connection to the first Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge of Illinois would not for a moment entertain a proposition to recognize as Masonic any so-called lodge of Ancient Craft Masons which could not show such a connection, however loudly it might proclaim its allegiance to the primal law, and though its polity were identical with our own. By what mysterious process of logic can it justify itself, if it

shall recognize as Masonic any so-called lodge, Grand or subordinate, which not only cannot show such a connection, but whose polity is a flat denial of the fundamental law which we hold to be unchangeable? It will not thus place a premium on innovation, nor accord to the alien what it denies to the household of the faithful.

All very well for countries where lodges were *first* established by Grand Lodges. The "backward unbroken connection to the first Grand Lodge," can only be traced to 1817. Does Bro. Robbins claim that there was no legitimate Masonry before that period? The four lodges that entered into the compact in 1817 were *self-constituted*, had not parties in other parts of the world an equal right to organize lodges with those of London?

We do not admit that because Masonry is stronger in the United States than in any other part of the globe, or rather than all other parts combined, consequently we can make the law for the whole.

Supreme Councils claim equal jurisdiction over the first three degrees with Grand Lodges and just as good original data, and have and do exercise that right. Even one of the Supreme Councils in this country has within comparatively few years exercised that right, but, only in countries where there are no Grand Lodges.

The great foundation principles of genuine Masonry are universal, the same everywhere the world over, the recipients of its mysteries are confined to no people, race, religion, or political views. But the laws governing the order, or institution, are not the same, they differ as the condition of man differs in localities, or as the medium through which the secrets of Masonry are communicated differ.

Many of our laws are *home made*, made necessary from our political condition, as for instance, the law of jurisdiction, which all American Grand Lodges unite in supporting, but it is not right for us to declare those lodges irregular and their workings illegitimate, in countries where that law is not recognized.

There is legitimate Masonry, whose starting point, laws and workings are not in accordance with *American* customs.

We note a few of the decisions reported :

1. There is no limit of time within which an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft may be required to advance; his advancement must be of his own free will and accord.

2. A brother over whom lawful jurisdiction has been waived by one lodge, having been passed and raised by the lodge acquiring jurisdiction without petition and election as required by law, is nevertheless a lawful Master Mason. Having received the degrees in a regular lodge, lawfully held, his Masonic character is not attained by irregularity in the proceedings.

\* \* \* \* \*

4. Reading a petition for the degrees is not "receiving" it. After it has been read it is received by the voice of the lodge either tacitly or formally given; or at its pleasure the lodge may refuse to receive it.

5. Objection to a proposed visitor by a member, lodged with the Master of his lodge, is not valid during the absence of the objector.

6. An applicant for dimission may withdraw his application at any moment before the announcement that the dimit is granted, has been made.

From the report of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, we note :

Samuel Powell, charged with "seduction, and attempting to produce an abortion"—acquitted by the lodge; expelled by Grand Lodge, on appeal by a member of the lodge.

Another case—the specifications were—in brief:

Writing communications to the secretary of a lodge, "scandalizing the Worshipful Master and certain other brethren in the lodge and setting at defiance the authority of the lodge":

Writing scandalous and offensive postal cards to a brother Master Mason, with the malicious intent to injure and disgrace said brother.

On trial was indefinitely suspended—appealed and the committee reported—

Your committee having carefully examined the evidence in this case, are of opinion that the charges are fully sustained by it; and while the proceedings in all respects have not been entirely regular, yet we are fully satisfied that substantial justice has been done, and we therefore recommend that the action of the lodge be sustained.

Another case—"selling intoxicating liquors contrary to law"—the accused kept a drug store, and "systematically sold spirituous liquors as a beverage contrary to the law of this State"—expelled by his lodge—appealed, the action of the lodge sustained.

Another case—"maliciously publishing scandalous reports against a member of his lodge—using indecent, profane and offen-

sive language of and concerning a brother—engaging in private piques and quarrels to the scandal of Masonry.”

Committee sustained the lodge, in the indefinite suspension of the accused.

The following amendment to the By-Laws, appended to the report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, was adopted :

*Provided*, That none of the details of Masonic trials, emanating from the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, that of petitions, or others, whereby the name of the accused or the offense charged, shall be published in the printed proceedings; but that the Grand Secretary shall number such cases, giving name and number of lodge, and the final action of the Grand Lodge had thereon.

Bro. T. T. Gurney presented a most excellent report on Foreign Correspondence, comprising 197 pages, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-five Grand Lodges.

We have made so many extracts from the proceedings before us, that we must deny ourselves the pleasure of re-producing matter that we find in Bro. Gurney's report that would be both interesting and instructive.

One word to Bro. Gurney: you do well to “wait awhile before passing judgment.” Minnesota understands her duty in the premises, and will speak when it becomes necessary. Only *one* side of the story, and that but *partially*, has been told.

The Grand Lodge of Illinois has again demonstrated that she appreciates merit, M.·. W.·. Theodore T. Gurney, of Chicago, was elected Grand Master; and

R.·. W.·. John F. Burrill, of Springfield, re-elected Grand Secretary.

M.·. W.·. Bro. Joseph Robbins, of Quincy, resumes his old place, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

#### IOWA, 1878.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa was held at Cedar Rapids, June 4th, 5th and 6th, 1878.

M.·. W.·. Z. C. Luse, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Two hundred and two lodges represented.

Three hundred and eighty on the roll.

Four dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.  
Of our late Grand Master, the Grand Master of Iowa says :

Our sister Grand Lodge of Minnesota mourns the death of her Grand Master. Most Worshipful James C. Braden, Grand Master of Masons in Minnesota, died on the 9th of December, 1877, at San Antonio, Texas, whither he had gone but a few days previous, with the hope that a change of climate would at least retard his disease. Vain hope! He was the marked victim of that fatal disease, consumption, which seldom releases its iron grasp except in death. We had not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Bro. Braden, but from our relations—as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge over which he presided—a frequent and fraternal correspondence passed between us. I soon learned to love the man on account of his manly and noble utterances; they were such as emanate only from the pure and magnanimous heart of an upright and Christian Mason. He fell with his armor on, in the prime of life—at the early age of forty-two years. At the announcement of his untimely death, sadness and sorrow were depicted in the faces of the craftsmen, who silently uttered “Our Grand Master is dead.” We involuntarily exclaimed, “One of God’s noblemen has gone—

“Life’s labor done,  
Serenely to his final rest he passed;  
While the soft memories of his virtues yet  
Lingers, like sunlight hues when  
That bright orb has set.”

Among the decisions reported, we note :

2. *Query*.—Has a non-affiliate the Masonic right to enter a protest against the degrees being conferred on a candidate elected to receive them?

*Answer*.—He certainly has no such right. To grant him such privileges would be equivalent to permitting him to come into your lodge and ballot for candidates, when he desires them black-balled; and when you do not allow him to enjoy this privilege, why then place a cudgel in his hands that is just as effective, and more detestable—that of secretly protesting?

\* \* \* \* \*

5. *Query*.—Can a man who has a stiff knee be made a Mason?

*Answer*.—That depends somewhat on the degree of stiffness. \* \* \*  
At this time, when Masonry is only speculative, we should be stringent as to the mental qualifications of candidates, but liberal as to their physical. Therefore, in the case at bar, I would decide if this candidate can kneel at the altar, and take the proper steps, he is qualified, in that respect, to be made a Mason.

6. *STATEMENT*.—We have an Entered Apprentice Mason in our lodge who is a splendid business man, a good citizen, wealthy, and a number one fellow, but it is impossible for him to learn the lectures and stand the required examinations. *Query*.—Can’t you, as Grand Master, grant us a

dispensation authorizing us to confer the other degrees upon him, waiving the examination?

*Answer.*—The Grand Master has power to do almost any thing except furnish brains for candidates, and he might do that if he had them to spare.

*Ante*—we noticed that a Grand Master reported having overruled certain decisions of his predecessor, although approved by the Grand Lodge as not being in accord with “Masonic Law and Usage”—the Grand Lodge approved of the Grand Master’s action! Grand Master Luse takes a different view, he says:

The decision you refer to, while not in accord with my views, yet is a law of the Grand Lodge; and notwithstanding it may appear to work a hardship to you, I cannot grant your request. I hold that the Grand Master’s duties are to enforce the laws that he finds in force, and not to violate, set aside, or to overrule them. He may, however, construe those that are mystified and not plain, but he has no authority whatever, either expressed or implied, to overrule the decisions of his predecessors, after the same have been approved and adopted by the Grand Lodge, when the same become laws of the Grand Lodge.

This Masonic Law business is getting to be “a big thing;” the law of one jurisdiction is treason in the adjoining one; and in one and the same jurisdiction, a Grand Master reports a decision, the Grand Lodge approves, the next year another Grand Master reports a directly opposite decision on the same question, and the Grand Lodge approves that! Verily, Masonic Laws are not like those of the “Medes and Persians.”

The report of the Grand Secretary is a model document, embracing twenty-one heads.

Under the head “Reports of Committees,” he says:

The Grand Secretary gives the writers of all reports due and timely notice that their reports will be printed as written. They will, therefore, be particular and careful how they write them. He has re-written such documents too often and long already, and will “do so no more.” At the last communication some reports were written upon loose scraps, half in the form of note and half supplied “by word of mouth.” The writers, though paid for their work, expected the Grand Secretary to put such scraps in proper form for the press.

We have an idea that secretaries, either Grand or subordinate, have no right to change a word of a report after it has been acted upon by the body to whom made; a Grand Secretary may exer-

cise discretion and *not print*, our surprise is *not* that Bro. Parvin "will 'do so no more,'" but that he ever did it at all.

We insert the following, as a kind of premonitory hint, of what may be necessary in this jurisdiction :

The Grand Secretary presented the returns of Monitor Lodge, No. 330, received during the session, and asked instructions.

The Grand Master decided that the same not having been received within the period prescribed by law, and in time for the committee to report thereon, the delegate from said lodge could not be entitled to a seat in Grand Lodge.

A memorial page is inscribed to Bro. J. H. McKenny, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, near that of Minnesota. We copy the note appended :

Bro. McKenny was a delegate from Des Moines Lodge, No. 1, to the Masonic Convention of January 3d, 1844, which organized the Grand Lodge of Iowa, and was appointed Grand Sword Bearer of the new Grand Lodge, constituted January 8th, 1844. He was Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Minnesota in 1872-73; and in 1877 was appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Iowa near the Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

Bro. Parvin presented a general summary of his conclusions from the proceedings of the various Grand Bodies received, under the head of "Report on Foreign Correspondence."

M. . W. . Jeremiah W. Wilson, of Newton, was elected Grand Master ; and

R. . W. . Theodore S. Parvin, Iowa City, re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### IDAHO, 1877.

The Tenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Idaho was held at Boise City, September 11th, 12th and 13th, 1877.

M. . W. . E. A. Stevenson, G. . M. ., presiding.

Ten lodges represented.

Twelve on the roll.

Among the decisions reported, we note :



Question.—Can a lodge receive an application for affiliation unless it be accompanied by a proper dimit from the Lodge of which said applicant was last a member?

Answer.—All applications for affiliation must be accompanied by a dimit from the lodge of which said applicant was last a member, or a satisfactory explanation in writing of his inability to furnish said dimit.

\* \* \* \* \*

Question.—When an Entered Apprentice applies for advancement, after waiting eighteen months is it required to again spread the ballot?

Answer.—One ballot on a petition to be made a Mason, if clear, entitles the applicant to the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry—no further balloting is required.

\* \* \* \* \*

Question.—Is it right and proper for Masons to electioneer for office in Masonic lodges?

Answer.—No, it is in direct opposition to one of the standing resolutions of the Grand Lodge. In Masonry especially, the office should seek the man and not the man the office. If a brother possesses real merit; if he have those qualifications which are essential to one in an official position, his brethren will be the very first to find them out; and in due time he will surely have his reward. The election of officers either in the Grand Lodge or its subordinates should ever be the result of a free and enlightened choice of its members, and every Mason should refuse to give his support to any one for office who shall be found guilty of this vile, un-Masonic practice.

\* \* \* \* \*

Question.—If these men can produce the avouchment of Bros. White and Broskro under the seal of the lodge where they reside will that be proper avouchment to admit them to visit our lodge?

Answer.—No, it is no avouchment at all. No diploma, certificate, or any other written or printed document, under seal or otherwise, of any Grand or subordinate lodge, or emanating from any source whatever, is any evidence to prove that a man is a Mason. He must be personally avouched for by a Bro. Mason in good standing, or pass a rigid and thorough examination under the direction of the Master of the lodge.

In this case is illustrated one of the many evil consequences arising out of the vile and pernicious practice of making Masons out of non-residents without inquiry into their previous character or examining them in open lodge as to their proficiency in each degree before conferring another.

This Grand Lodge has a General, a Representative and an Orphan fund, the latter amounting to \$3231.52.

An excellent showing for a Grand Lodge only ten years in existence—we have not had time to figure up that of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

Transactions of local interest.

Bro. O. H. Purdy presented an able report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-seven Grand Lodges. Minnesota receives a kindly notice, and free extracts from our proceedings of 1877 made.

Just one word Bro. Purdy, what you term an "innuendo" was not designed as such, we approved of the report of the committee upon general principles supposing it was intended as a general application, we had no idea of a personal reflection, either by the committee or ourself.

M. W. E. A. Stevenson, of Pioneerville, Grand Master ; and

R. W. Charles Himrod, of Boise City, Grand Secretary ; were each re-elected.

Bro. A. Heed, of Boise City, Chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee.

### KANSAS, 1877.

The Twenty-second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Kansas was held at Topeka, October 17th and 18th, 1877.

M. W. Jacob D. Rush, G. M., presiding.

Ninety-four lodges represented.

One hundred and sixty-seven on the roll.

Five dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

1. After the lodge has been closed, it is not in order at any subsequent meeting to reconsider the ballot or vote by which any measure, was either passed or rejected at a previous meeting.

\* \* \* \* \*

6. When a dispensation is surrendered and a charter is issued instead, no interruption of the work occurs. Reports of committees, etc., appointed while under dispensation, will be made to the chartered lodge, just the same as though appointed under the charter.

\* \* \* \* \*

8. Neither a lodge nor its master has any right to expunge or erase any portion of the minutes of the lodge, after they have been read and approved.

9. All objections made in open lodge to the initiation or advancement of a candidate, must be placed upon record, whether the objecting brother asks it or not.

A new question is looming up, somewhat larger than a "man's hand" at present, but it bids fair to assume proportions.

The Grand Master says :

It will be observed from the foregoing, that I have made some decisions adverse to those which have been made in previous years.

\* \* \* \* \*

Rules and regulations have been enacted, and decisions of our various P. . G. . Masters, confirmed year after year, many of which conflict with each other, thus affording a magnificent series of opportunities, for the good brother with an investigating turn of mind, to interrogate the Grand Master as to which is right, and which is wrong; necessitating the writing of a great many more letters of explanation, than would otherwise be required.

Masonic law is getting to be a *big thing*.

Bro. Brown presented a well-digested report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

M. . W. . John Guthrie, of Topeka, was elected Grand Master ; and

R. . W. . John H. Brown, of Wyandotte, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

### KENTUCKY, 1877.

The Seventy-eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky was held at Louisville, October 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th, 1877.

M. . W. . R. M. Farleigh, G. . M. ., presiding.

Four hundred and forty-three lodges represented.

Five hundred and ninety on the roll.

Ten under dispensation.

The report of the Grand Master occupies some nineteen pages ; he evidently does not believe in the infallibility of Grand Masters ; he says :

I submit that the decisions of a Grand Master are law only during his term of office, and that he lays them before his Grand Lodge as part of his work during the year, and upon which he desires its judgment. They do not remain law after his term expires, unless made so by constitutional enactment, but remain upon record simply as precedent. With this view

I have not hesitated to decide and instruct differently from those of the approved decisions of my predecessors, which, in my judgment, were not in accord with sound Masonic law and usage.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

2. Being a saloon keeper does not in itself constitute a Masonic offense ; *aliter* if the saloon is kept in violation of law.

\* \* \* \* \*

11. An expelled Mason, who desires restoration, must petition the Lodge which expelled him, if that be in existence ; otherwise, the Grand Lodge. There is no prescribed form for the petition, but action upon it is governed by the rules which apply to petitions for initiation.

12. The landmark in regard to physical qualifications applies only to the *making* of Masons, and has no reference to a brother's fitness for office. One may sit in the East, though his physical infirmities would debar him as an applicant for initiation.

\* \* \* \* \*

14. The Master is the only officer exempt from discipline by his Lodge.

\* \* \* \* \*

18. The friends of a brother who died under suspension for non-payment of dues, cannot by paying his dues, entitle him to Masonic burial.

\* \* \* \* \*

21. It is not only the right but the duty of an affiliated Mason to prefer charges if he knows of the wrong doing of a brother. The one preferring charges should be present at the trial and interrogate the witness in connection with the J. . W. ., but his failure so to do does not invalidate the trial.

22. Any offense against the laws of God is a violation of the laws of Masonry.

\* \* \* \* \*

28. Fines in Masonry are not sanctioned by ancient or modern usage in American Lodges, and are in direct conflict with the theory of our institution.

\* \* \* \* \*

31. The Master should raise the lodge on opening and closing ; the J. . W. . should raise it only in calling off and on. The lodge should be called up before the Master gives his order to the West.

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39. When the lodge having jurisdiction rejects a petition for membership, the applicant may after the lapse of three months, petition any other lodge in this jurisdiction.

\* \* \* \* \*

43. A lodge having lawful jurisdiction is the sole judge of its petitioners' qualifications ; protests from a neighboring lodge should receive the fullest consideration, but further than that they cannot prevail.

44. A dimit does not shield a brother from punishment for offenses committed before the dimit was granted.

45. Where unworthy motives for applying for a dimit are publicly avowed, disciplinary measures may be taken.

46. A Masonic lodge room should not be used for any other than Masonic purposes.

47. The black ball does not affect the Masonic standing of a dimitted Mason who applies for membership.

48. The incorporation of a benefit system in Masonic by-laws is antagonistic to the principles and spirit of Masonry.

\* \* \* \* \*

50. It is not necessary that the accuser should be a member of the lodge before which the charges are presented. An affiliated Mason may prefer charges against any brother in the jurisdiction of any lodge.

51. While every member who is square on the books and free from charges is entitled to a dimit, the lodge has the right to prescribe the way in which the application must be made.

\* \* \* \* \*

58. When a committee of investigation reports upon the worthiness or unworthiness of a candidate, the lodge has no right to compel it to say in what way it came to its conclusion. The report is simply the opinion of the committee.

59. It is not only proper but usually advisable for a Master to exclude visitors when a trial is in progress in his lodge.

Under the head of "Benefit System," he says:

There is a disturbing element in some lodges, and which I have been called upon to consider, which I recommend to the attention of the Grand Lodge. I allude to the so-called "Benefit System," which forms an essential feature in various societies more or less imitating Freemasonry. That a sick brother be paid *so much a week*, during his disability, whether he need it or not, and that a funeral fee shall be paid to the family of a departed brother, whether the family need it or not, may all be good law for "life assurance" and "health assurance" societies, but it is certainly not Masonic law, and is, without question, antagonistic to the basal principles of charity as taught in the Masonic system.

On Masonic funerals, he says:

At a period when almost every village in Kentucky is stocked with from three to five affiliations (secret societies, so-called,) and many Masons are in membership with them, it would be strange if, in the confusion of rites and ceremonies and covenants, more or less alike, there should not be some "putting new patches on old garments," "new wine into old bottles." Lest my remark should be deemed invidious, I mention no names. I recognize the undoubted right of every brother "to try all things," to belong

to as many societies as he chooses, and, if he have time, money and brains to spare, he may make "Secret Societies" of his own, yet it is my duty to warn the craft that no fellowship is possible between the one ancient, universal brotherhood and the thousand and one figments of modern brains. No blending of rites can be permitted for a moment, nor can Masons, as such, even know of the existence of other affiliations. This warning is particularly necessary in regard to *funerals*. *The Masonic dead are to be buried Masonically*. When our lines are formed about the grave none can be admitted within them, save the fraternity, the clergy, and the mourners. The world at large is heartily welcome to witness our solemn rites, but only "without the gate," and when our last prayer is said and our last ceremony performed we turn away to our Lodge-rooms, we know nothing and care nothing of what is said and done by those who may close in behind us. The procession, the pall-bearers, the enclosing lines, the last sad rites must be, one and all, *strictly Masonic*. I speak this in all plainness and no one should take offense where no offense is intended. It is only to sustain the character and dignity of our order, which, on many funeral occasions, when the ceremonies were in charge of a kind hearted but incompetent Master, have been allowed to trail in the dust.

And of obituary resolutions, he says :

In looking through our Grand Lodge proceedings, and those of other Grand Lodges and the records of subordinate lodges, it gives me regret to observe the monotonous spirit of eulogy (not always deserved) that actuates the whole series of obituary resolutions. I think this unwise as it certainly is unfair. While I believe in only speaking well of the dead, and I am confident there is something good to be said of every Mason, yet indiscriminate praise, in matters where no praise is due, is the worst kind of censure. To publish a Mason as a profound Christian, who in truth was scarcely a believer in Divine Inspiration; to proclaim a man a devoted Mason because, forsooth, he was an eminent politician but in fact had totally neglected Masonic duties; to eulogize the whole career of a man notoriously intemperate—if such things have ever been done, and it is said they have, why this is to make Masonry a mantle, not of charity, but of falsehood. In my opinion committees appointed to prepare obituary resolutions should say nothing but the truth, and if the deceased brother has not left sufficient facts on record, or in the recollection of his comrades, to afford him a eulogy let the matter pass. An intelligent and conscientious brother of my lodge once, when appointed chairman of such a committee, wrote as follows :

*Resolved*, 1st. That brother —— is dead.

*Resolved*, 2d. That we are sorry for it.

How many of you can recall instances where these two resolutions would express the full sentiment of the lodge?

The world is observant of our conduct in these particulars, and charges against the order at large as faults what are mere inadvertences on the part of committees anxious to speak well of the dead.

The resolution adopted in 1876—noticed in our last report—which was sent to the subordinate lodges for their action, was adopted by a vote—by lodges 237 against 178—by membership 5,184 against 1,704, evidencing that the Masons of Kentucky are determined to continue to deserve the plaudits of the world in maintaining a Home for Widows and Orphans.

Bro. Thomas Todd presented a very able report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of thirty-nine Grand Lodges, Minnesota is not of the number. A special copy of our proceedings was mailed to the reporter, and also an extra copy to the Grand Secretary.

Bro. Todd uses the *scissors* judiciously, and his comments, though brief, are pointed.

M. W. Campbell H. Johnson, of Henderson, was elected Grand Master; and

R. W. Hiram Bassett, of Millersburg, elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Henry B. Grant, of Louisville, Assistant Grand Secretary.

### LOUISIANA, 1878.

The Sixty-sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana was held at New Orleans, February 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th, 1878.

M. W. Samuel J. Powell, G. M., presiding.

Seventy-two lodges represented.

Two hundred and twenty-six on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

We find the following among the first entries in the proceedings:

M. W. E. W. Durant, Grand Master of the Masons of the State of Minnesota, was announced, and entered the Grand Lodge escorted by P. G. Masters S. M. Todd, M. E. Girard and John G. Fleming. The latter introducing the M. W. brother to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge. He was received with appropriate honors. Grand Master S. J. Powell, in his address of welcome, alluded in terms of approbation to the firm stand taken by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota, when the jurisdiction of Louisiana as well as that of Minnesota and others, were threatened by an open departure from the "ancient ways" of the craft, and expressed more than ordinary pleasure at being able to extend to the Grand Lodge and

brethren of Minnesota, through M. W. Bro. E. W. Durant, the highest officer of the craft of that jurisdiction, a cordial and hearty greeting. After being conducted to the East M. W. Bro. Durant replied in eloquent terms to the welcome of Grand Master Powell, thanking him and the Grand Lodge for the manifestations of their regard and esteem to him, as the representative of the B. B. of Minnesota, and to the favorable appreciation of the action of his Grand Lodge, and to him as an officer of the same.

We find the following announcement in the address of the Grand Master :

R. W. Bro. J. W. Todd, D. D. G. Master of Sixteenth District died at Homer, La., 12th May. He died in the lodge room in the active discharge of his Masonic duties.

Among the decisions reported we note :

1. That a change in a by-law of a constituent lodge, referring to the administration of its local affairs, such as a change in the time of meeting, made after legal notice and delays, went into effect immediately after its passage, and it did not require the approval of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master to make it operative.

\* \* \* \* \*

2. That an Entered Apprentice with one eye was not ineligible to receive the two remaining degrees in this jurisdiction by means of said defect.

3. That an applicant with a defect in the right hip that makes it impossible to put the right heel to the ground is ineligible.

4. That an applicant who has lost the first three fingers on the right hand is ineligible.

We present one extract from the Grand Master's address :

With the re-establishment of good government and the return of peace and order to our people, we naturally expected that prosperity would abound. But political troubles had so crippled the energies of our people, so disturbed the relation between capital and labor, and so hindered our agricultural and commercial interests that we have not realized that full measure of prosperity that we had anticipated. Added to this, the seasons have been unpropitious, and our material interests have suffered severely in the partial failure of our staple products. If this be true of our State and government, why should we repine if we are disappointed in our hopes? Masonry is a recognized institution in this land. It is free from partisanship, yet it is in the government and of the government; it is among the people and of the people; it sympathizes with every public joy and every public sorrow; it shares every success and every reverse. We, who compose its membership, are of like passions as those around us, and are bound to them in a common interest, in a common humanity, and in a



common sympathy. If Masonry should advance while all other interests decline, we should have reason to apprehend that it was drawing its sustenance from impure sources; that it was fattening on the corruptions of the times; and that it was failing in its sympathy with those great public interests that it was intended to supplement and support.

I can see no cause of repining. Nay, we should rather rejoice that we should be thought worthy to share the fortunes of the great public interests that surround us.

R.: W.: Bro. Batchelor has had very many years experience as Grand Secretary; we note some suggestions in his report, which we present for the edification of the brethren in this jurisdiction.

The standard of Masonry is too low, and is too cheap to be properly appreciated. The world will never think well of an institution that does not appreciate its own franchises and privileges. If our institution is worthy of the high encomium claimed and given it, then it is entitled to and should be better maintained and sustained, both in the time devoted and the money contributed to it.

In some cases the annual dues paid to the lodge is but one dollar a year, in some two dollars, and in but few cases in the parishes, more than three dollars.

How a lodge can be furnished, I do not mean expensively, but as a lodge should be to make it a pleasure to attend, or that can be made of any moral profit to its members on such an amount, is to say the least difficult to conceive; how it is to prove of practical relief to the poor widow and orphan, or to the weary wayfarer, is a puzzle indeed.

To furnish a lodge with books, working tools and paraphernalia, even in the plainest manner to be useful, must cost some money; and for a lodge to work without books and tools, would be like having a theatre without stage or scenery, or making a crop without implements. Time and application is equally needed, especially by those who assume the place of teachers, and it is well to know and admit that a Mason, any more than any other man, cannot teach properly that which he does not know or comprehend, and nothing of real or great value is to be obtained without both trouble and expense. Masonry, at a ten dollar degree, and an expense of five or ten cents a month to support a lodge, will not be apt to claim a very high regard from the profane, or to be able to perform those necessary deeds of charity that prove so satisfactory to all good men, and especially to the good Mason who would like to see his lodge and the fraternity prosper.

\* \* \* \* \*

Does a farmer believe that he would make a good crop with poor stock and poor tools? No; his experience would teach him that a wooden plow or hoe, or a stone axe, would prove dear at any or no price at all; and how much better will it prove with a lodge, that has a wooden W.: Master or Secretary. In Masonry, as in farming, the best tool is the cheapest in the

end. A lodge whose members have too little pride in it to induce them to spend money for what is essential and necessary, will never raise a good crop of Masons. Take a more liberal view, brethren, and ask yourselves what should my lodge be, and what should it be able to do, and how much will it require to make it fulfill the expectation?

The Grand Secretary announced that in the interest of economy he would donate \$500 of his year's salary to the Grand Lodge.

Bro. G. H. Braughn again presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. It embraces a review of the proceedings of forty-four American and nine Foreign Grand Bodies. Minnesota receives a very courteous notice and several extracts made from the address of Grand Master Braden, etc.

Under the head of Illinois, he says:

The Grand Master holds that the Master of a lodge has no power to control members who are able to assist and watch with sick brethren; but that it is a duty resting upon every Mason to assist a worthy distressed brother to the extent of that brother's necessity and his own ability. The mere fact of sickness, however, does not constitute "distress," such as would warrant an imperative demand on a brother for aid, either in personal service or in a pecuniary way, unless sickness is coupled with indigence. As a rule each brother must be the judge of his own ability; but cases may arise where the ability would be so apparent and the necessity so manifest that refusal to bear a hand might justly be viewed and treated as a culpable disregard of obligation.

Under the head of Nevada, we find:

Past Grand Master Fleming, in speaking of our Masonic Cemetery, said in his address, that "this property is much in need of some improvement. The fencing around it is not as good as it should be, as there is not sufficient internal improvement in it." This passage evidently aroused the curiosity and kindled the wit of our excellent brother in far off Nevada, for he says, in response, as follows:

"Were it not rather a grave subject for jest, we might ask what sort of 'internal improvement' the Grand Master means. By the way, the condition of the fence reminds us of what occurred once between a committee canvassing subscriptions to repair the fence of a village cemetery, and a stingy old curmudgeon who was applied to for a contribution in that behalf. 'What's the use of it?' said he 'there isn't anybody on the outside that wants to break into it, is there?' 'No, but——' 'Well, there isn't anybody in that's trying to break out, is there?'"

Brother Taylor does not seem acquainted with the *locus in quo*! With us the subject is, as a matter of course, a *serious* one, but not a *grave* one. Owing to the peculiar formation of the soil in and about New Orleans, we,

as a general thing, don't have *graves* in our cemeteries; we build tombs in their place, and then try to beautify them and their surroundings. We have a peculiar custom, too, imported from the Old World, and one which we cherish, of annually decking and decorating the tombs of our departed with flowers and other objects of beauty and art; to preserve these from destruction, or theft, a little "fencing" might be necessary. Brother Fleming's address meant this, "and nothing more."

The report of Bro. Braughn may be termed exhaustive, embracing as it does all matters of interest found in the documents reviewed.

M.: W.: Samuel J. Powell, of St. Francisville, Grand Master ; and

R.: W.: J. C. Batchelor, of New Orleans, Grand Secretary, were each re-elected.

Bro. George H. Braughn, of New Orleans, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

#### MAINE, 1878.

The Fifty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was held at Portland, May 7th, 8th and 9th, 1878.

M.: W.: Edward P. Burnham, G.: M.:, presiding.

One hundred and sixty-nine lodges represented.

One hundred and eighty-one on the roll.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

1. A Past Master of a chartered lodge may, in the absence of the Master and Wardens, open the lodge, preside therein at the transaction of ordinary business, including the election of officers, as well as the conferring of degree, and also may close the lodge.

2. A lodge cannot properly confer the Master Mason's degree at the request of another lodge, the requesting lodge not having waived jurisdiction of the candidate. The constitution does not authorize the conferring of degrees or admitting to membership without a previous application and a ballot being had thereon. The conferring of the third degree constitutes the recipient a member of the lodge. One lodge cannot elect members for another lodge.

3. A lodge attending the burial of a deceased member should perform the service at the grave, even though a Commandery of Knights Templar also perform their service. The custom of burying a brother as a Master Master, is more ancient than the existence in this country of an organized body of Knights Templar. While, therefore, there is no clashing between

these Masonic organizations, the lodge should perform its own duty or not appear as a lodge.

\* \* \* \* \*

6. Objection having been made to the advancement of an Entered Apprentice, the lodge should not refund the deposit and fee for the degree conferred. Each degree is worth the money paid therefor, and the lodge incurs expense in conferring, and pays a fee to the Grand Lodge.

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8. A brother who is going away, cannot put in a protest against a man who is likely to be made a Mason in his absence. He can only object to an actual candidate.

\* \* \* \* \*

10. A Masonic hall, after dedication, cannot be used for other than Masonic purposes. A lodge having been obliged to vacate its hall, may, if necessary, having obtained consent from the proper authority, temporarily occupy a hall used by another society, until a suitable hall can be procured.

No. "2," is not in accordance with the custom of this jurisdiction. We have here very frequently conferred degrees upon candidates on the request of the home lodge, which courtesy has been reciprocated upon the request of our lodges.

A. has received one or two degrees, but before he can complete the course is obliged to remove his residence to a distant part of his own or to another Grand Jurisdiction, pleased with the part received, is anxious to complete the series at the earliest practicable moment. There are two ways to get at the matter. 1st. By petition to the lodge in his new neighborhood for the remaining degrees. Such a course involves considerable time, first, to get his home lodge to waive jurisdiction, and second, a residence of a constitutional period before the lodge in his new neighborhood can receive and act upon his petition.

2d. By courtesy. The original lodge requests the other lodge to confer the degree or degrees upon their candidate, lodge B. complies, and the party is a member of lodge A.—the fees are a matter of agreement between the lodges. The brother may then apply for a dimit, and if accepted, affiliate with lodge B.

In our view, the plea that "the right of objection might be lost" to some member of lodge A., is a very narrow one—but it is not lost, if a valid objection exists, lodge A. would not make the request.

The decision is an outgrowth of the "perpetual jurisdictional"

claim, which is not tenable with the principles or practice of *Ancient Masonry*.

No. "3," we endorse in its entirety; it is the practice in this jurisdiction.

The following relative to dimitts, was adopted:

*Resolved*, That with the consent of his lodge a member may petition another lodge for membership without taking a dimit; the lodge receiving the application may act thereon, but the applicant shall not become a member of such lodge until he has filed his dimit and signed the by-laws; and, unless he procures his dimit and signs the by-laws within six months after his election, he shall lose all rights thereunder.

The following, as a practical measure, we recommend to the consideration of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

*Voted*, That lodges be required to return to the Grand Secretary, before the next annual communication, the distance from their lodge rooms to the Grand Lodge, by the routes usually traveled, where found to be incorrect, authenticated by the seal of the lodge in each case.

The following amendment to the constitution was proposed:

No brother shall be eligible to an office in the Grand Lodge, except he be a permanent member thereof, or a member of a subordinate lodge under this jurisdiction; and a brother having been duly elected to either of the stations of Grand Warden, and having served in said station for one year, shall not be re-elected to the office the year following.

Based upon the action of the Grand Orient of France, the Grand Lodge—

*Resolved*, That the Grand Orient of France, by amending its constitution in such a manner that atheists may be admitted as Masons, has ceased to be a Masonic body; and all Masonic intercourse with it, its subordinate lodges, or the members of its obedience, is hereby forbidden.

Bro. Drummond will keep ahead, manage as we may, his report on Foreign Correspondence for the current year embraces a review of the proceedings of fifty-four Grand Lodges—he has gathered them all, even those of New South Wales.

Under the head of Illinois, he says:

It requires money to support a lodge; to raise this money by voluntary contribution throws the whole burden on a few, and keeps the lodge in a

chronic shortness of funds; if a man can pay for lodge privileges, and will not, we believe Masonry is better off to have him out of the lodge than in it. But, although out of the lodge, he is a Mason, and entitled (as we hold) to such recognition as each brother conscientiously feels that he ought to accord, but not entitled, *as of right*, to any of the privileges springing from a lodge organization. This is no remedy for non-affiliation; but we believe it is the wisest plan to adopt in reference to the matter.

That is the Minnesota idea, and we accordingly—after timely notice—strike the name from the roll.

Under the head of Pennsylvania, we find:

We prefer the practice of Massachusetts, where Grand Wardens are never re-elected, or promoted from the South to the West, because it gives the Grand Lodge a permanent membership of the wisest, ablest and most zealous Masons in the jurisdiction, from whose ranks the Grand Master may appoint his Deputy, or the craft select their Grand Master. We dislike the growing idea, that the officer next in rank to Junior Grand Warden has any claims for promotion, or that a brother placed in the South has a vested right to successive promotion to the Grand East. Such a practice really gives the Grand Master for the time being the power to designate the next Junior Grand Warden, who in time is to become Grand Master, and designate in his turn one of his successors. Nevertheless, we would not have a brother elected Deputy Grand Master who is not deemed qualified to be Grand Master. It is well to promote the Deputy, as, by being elected to that post, he has time while he holds it, to prepare himself for presiding officer, and has notice that he will probably be called upon to occupy the Grand East, and no brother should become Grand Master who has not qualified himself by a special course of reading and study with that specific object in view.

Under the head of Virginia, we find:

The doctrine is that one should be tried only by his peers, and the reason for this is, that a Master cannot rule his lodge as he ought, if he is liable to be tried by his lodge as soon as he is out of office. This reason does not apply to our rule, that a Master cannot be tried by his lodge for any offense while he is Master, nor for any official act, after he ceases to be Master. The Grand Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction of all acts and omissions done or suffered in his capacity of Master.

Under the head of Mississippi, he says, and with this, we close our extracts:

We hold that a lodge has the right to try a member; but that the member, under the landmarks, has an inherent right of appeal to the Grand

Lodge, and if the Grand Lodge reverses the action of the lodge, for any cause, whether it be want of notice, illegality in the proceedings, or an erroneous decision upon the questions of fact, the brother ought to stand precisely where he did when the charges were filed, and that any law which, under such circumstances, *deprives him of any of his rights*, is a "barbarous" law.

M. W. Edward P. Burnham, of Saco, Grand Master; and  
R. W. Ira Berry, of Portland, Grand Secretary, were each re-elected.

Bro. Josiah H. Drummond, of Portland, Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

### MASSACHUSETTS, 1877.

An Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts—"being its one hundred and forty-fourth anniversary"—was held at Boston, December 12th, 1877.

M. W. Percival L. Everett, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and sixty lodges represented.

Two hundred and nineteen on the roll.

Two under dispensation.

We note a closing paragraph of the address of the Grand Master:

Returns show that there are about twenty-six thousand Masons in this State, and nearly six hundred thousand in the United States; consider for a moment the influence they exert on the morals and character of society, and how careful we should be that none but good men enter our ranks. It is to the good character of Masons, as citizens, neighbors and friends, that our institution owes its prosperity and the consideration it receives.

Let us preserve it pure and untarnished, and ever realize that we have received it as a sacred trust to be passed on to succeeding generations.

A sacred burden in this life ye bear;  
Look on it, lift it, bear it solemnly;  
Stand up and walk beneath it steadfastly.  
Fail not for sorrow, falter not for sin,  
But onward, upward, till the goal ye win.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has a lock of Washington's hair preserved in a Golden Urn, which, since 1801, is confided to the custody of the Grand Master at his installation.

A very interesting feature of the proceedings is the reports of the District Deputies, furnishing as they do valuable information relative to the workings of the lodges not contained in the annual returns.

The *actual* expenses of the District Deputies—which amounts to less than one hundred dollars each—is paid by the Grand Lodge. They enquire into and report the financial condition of each lodge, the capability and efficiency of its officers, the condition of the records, average attendance, condition of the halls as to secrecy, furniture, etc., etc., and having a general supervision of the lodges in the district.

With such supervision lodges would not be apt to issue “Traveling Cards,” or as a lodge and in Masonic costume attend the funeral of a female member of a brother’s family.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . Charles A. Welch, of Waltham, was elected Grand Master ; and

R. . W. . Charles H. Titus, of Boston, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Since the foregoing was in the printer’s hands, we have learned of the death of two of the honored members of the Grand Lodge.

First, John McClellan, for many years the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, and also of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. For upwards of a quarter of a century we knew him intimately, a brother in whom there was no guile, strictly honorable in every transaction, gentle, genial, of broad views, a kind friend. The ways of Providence are inscrutable.

A circular from the Grand Master notifies us of the death of the Grand Secretary, Bro. Titus, and of the appointment of R. . W. . Tracy B. Cheever, of Boston.

#### MARYLAND, 1877.

An Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maryland was held at Baltimore, November 20th and 21st, 1877.

M. . W. . J. H. B. Latrobe, G. . M. ., presiding.

Seventy-seven lodges represented.

One hundred and seventy-four on the roll.



A new device by which to get rid of those who neglect or refuse to pay dues. The Grand Master says in his address :

A form of resolution to be offered in a subordinate lodge was submitted to the Grand Master, releasing a brother from the payment of arrears of dues on condition of his resigning. In this way, it was suggested, that many members whose resignations were desirable, might, in plain terms, be gotten rid of—at least so the Grand Master understood it, and his comment was, that such a proceeding was not allowable.

The following resolution was introduced, but ruled out of order by the Grand Master, holding that it conflicted with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge :

Any Master Mason in good standing, in this jurisdiction, shall have the privilege of voting upon the application of a candidate for degrees in any lodge in the State of Maryland.

The proposition is not a new one, we remember that it had its advocates some thirty years ago ; within two or three years the question has been revived, the advocates of the proposition, claim that as Masonry is a universal brotherhood, the admittance of a new member has a bearing upon the craft everywhere, and hence, every Mason should have a voice in the reception of candidates ; the other side claim that a lodge is equivalent to a family circle, and that members of the family only have the right to say who shall become members of it. Our view is, "let well enough alone."

Bro. John S. Tyson presented a report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-four Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

The printer is calling loudly for "copy," and we are obliged to omit extracts from the very able and well-digested report before us. We hope for better luck next time.

M. W. John H. B. Latrobe, of Baltimore, was elected Grand Master some seven years since—at the time, the brethren were in great trouble ; their beautiful hall, in Baltimore, was threatened with sale by the sheriff, Bro. Latrobe by extraordinary energy succeeded in saving the building to the fraternity and getting their financial matters in good shape ; and now the craft in that jurisdiction insist that he shall continue to serve them as Grand Master, notwithstanding his earnest appeals to be relieved.

R.·. W.·. Jacob H. Medairy—No. 6, N. Howard St., Baltimore—re-elected Grand Secretary.

### MICHIGAN, 1878.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Michigan was held at Grand Rapids, January 22d and 23d, 1878.

M.·. W.·. William Dunham, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Three hundred and thirty-two lodges represented.

Three hundred and forty-six on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

We present an extract from the address of the Grand Master :

What talismanic influence causes the wild waves of passion and fanaticism to break harmless at the portals of Freemasonry? Is it not owing to our conservatism? And why has Freemasonry been always thus conservative? We know that in politics as well as in religion it has frequently happened that the most circumspect and orthodox have changed into ultra extremists, and have gone to the utmost excesses. Why have we not witnessed or experienced within our institution the same transformations? It is because our fraternity has been governed by certain fixed and Ancient Landmarks; landmarks unaltered and unalterable. All of our teachings, traditions, and usages are of universal application. But the strict observance of the Ancient Landmarks of the order always has been, and must still continue to be, the means of preserving the institution of Freemasonry in its present exalted attitude.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

1. The by-laws of a subordinate lodge not containing any provision for exempting its secretary from the payment of dues, he is liable to pay them unless they are remitted.

\* \* \* \* \*

4. Our law of jurisdiction over material, both new and rejected, is ample and clear. A lodge trespassing on the jurisdiction of another, by working its material, must pay to the lodge of that jurisdiction all fees it may receive for work done on such material; the offending lodge is also liable to punishment by Grand Lodge if its trespass be found to have been made knowingly and wilfully.

\* \* \* \* \*

7. It is the prerogative of a W.·. M.·. to decide whether or not he will entertain a question relative to the disposition of funds belonging to his lodge, and submit it to a vote of his lodge.

\* \* \* \* \*

9. Any brother disclosing the secret business of the lodge, such as the rejection of a candidate, or the color of his or another's ballot, is guilty of gross unmasonic conduct.

\* \* \* \* \*

10. It is not proper to charge a fee for a certificate of dimit. The vote of the lodge granting a dimit is itself the dimit, and the paper usually issued to the dimitted brother is merely a certificate or evidence of the action of the lodge in the premises, and nothing should be charged for it.

\* \* \* \* \*

12. When a lodge is convinced that it has unjustly inflicted Masonic punishment on a brother, it should not wait for him to petition for reparation of the injustice done him, but it should voluntarily and promptly take the necessary steps to rectify its own wrong.

\* \* \* \* \*

14. The constitution, regulations and laws of this Grand Lodge are paramount law in this Grand Jurisdiction; and in all cases, to which its provisions are applicable it must be observed, all opinions and rulings of other and eminent authorities to the contrary notwithstanding.

\* \* \* \* \*

17. I have been asked, "Is the lodge open or at refreshment when marching in funeral procession, and when conducting services at the house or at the grave?" The funeral service in all its parts and details, is a Masonic ceremony which can be theoretically correct only when done in open lodge. The lodge should be opened on the third degree at the lodge room, or in some other private or proper place, the Bible, Square and Compasses being present, and the officers in their proper places and stations; it should thus move as an open lodge, to the performance of all the details and duties of the ceremony; and it should then return to the lodge room or other proper place and be closed, either with or without form, as the circumstances and the discretion of the W. M. may dictate.

18. I have been further asked, "If the lodge is open while in the street and at the grave, is it necessary that the charter be present?" To this reply, the lodge having been once properly opened, the presence of the charter, while in procession or at the grave is not necessary.

The reports of the District Deputies are models, and must have a beneficial effect upon the lodges and craft in that State.

From the report of the special "Committee on Temperance" appointed at the previous annual communication, we select; and we say brethren read again and again:

1st. No general legislation is needed to maintain a proper respect for and observance of the Masonic virtue of temperance. The observance and practice of this virtue is inculcated in a most impressive manner on our first admission into a lodge of Masons. It is there enjoined upon us as the constant practice of every Mason. It stands at the head of the four cardinal virtues as the faithful guardian of the secrets of the order.

\* \* \* \* \*

It is not in new legislation that the remedy for intemperance is to be found, but in the enforcement of existing laws. Your committee are satisfied that much of the causes of complaint in this behalf arises from the neglect of observing those reciprocal duties and obligations which rests upon us as Masons towards one another. Intemperance does not burst forth suddenly into the enormity of an offence—it is a plant of slow growth, having its roots nurtured from frequent indulgence until it forms habit. It is a falling away from that high plane of temperance upon which all upright Masons stand. The downward steps are plainly to be perceived by all the brethren. But do the brethren, animated by that fraternal regard for a brother Mason's welfare which we are taught to exercise and which we profess to have, stretch forth their hands to assist and save the falling brother? Do they whisper in his ear words of caution? Do they give good counsel, not by chiding publicly, but by private admonition? Or rather do they turn away from him, or pass by on the other side, giving him no due and timely notice that may ward off approaching danger?

\* \* \* \* \*

2d. Special legislation is not needed upon the subject, either to enjoin temperance or to inculcate brotherly love. For if the initiate will not respect the cardinal virtues, nor the brethren fulfill their obligations, without special injunctions so to do, both will be alike unavailing. There is no life in the letter of the law, but in the spirit.

Therefore we say to those brethren who complain of the evil of intemperance among the fraternity, that the blame does not rest upon the intemperate alone, nor with the law-givers, but with the brother in that he has himself so degraded, disgraced and fallen; and with the lodge in that they did not save him from falling; or failing in this, that they did not wipe out the degradation and disgrace to the fraternity by expelling or suspending him from all the rights and benefits of Masonry.

Bro. W. P. Innes, makes his appearance for the first time among the M. A. S., with a report embracing a review of the proceedings of twenty-three Grand Lodges, circumscribed as to topics, as he was by the—in our opinion—unwise action of his Grand Lodge, it is a wonder that he was enabled to get up so readable report.

M. W. John W. Finch, of Adrian, was elected Grand Master; and

R. W. William P. Innes, of Grand Rapids, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

## MISSISSIPPI, 1878.

The Sixtieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi was held at Grenada, February 6th, 7th and 8th, 1878.

M. W. John Y. Murry, G. M., presiding:

Two hundred and twenty-nine lodges represented.

Three hundred and eighty-five on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

The address of the Grand Master contains many practical points, we select a few which we commend to the careful consideration of the craft in this jurisdiction:

I cannot believe the greatest danger to the institution lies in the mere want of numbers. Much of the danger is to be found within the lodge; consequently in proportion as our numbers are, the quality being bad, just in the same ratio will injury accrue to Freemasonry. In fact the purging which has been going on in our jurisdiction for the past few years, while it has reduced our membership roll, has made us much more powerful for good. This agency should not be relaxed, and when there is added to it strict tiling, that is to say, allow none to enter our portals except the truly worthy, and in a short time the genuine essence of Freemasonry will be felt, seen, and heard, all around us.

It is implied in what I have said that it is not the uninitiated, or even the Anti-Mason who is endangering our Masonic Temple most; nay, verily, the assaults of foes from without dwindle into insignificance when contrasted with the influence of bad men within who have deceived us, and who have perchance been too strongly recommended by personal friends among us. Overzeal of the friend in trying to break down even well founded opposition to the reception of a candidate, or as is very often the case, in trying to drive other members from their honest convictions of duty, where efforts are being made to get rid of the unworthy, very often produces discord, and sometimes results in irreparable injury to subordinate lodges. Only men of strongest moral courage dare to use the negative vote, in the one or affirmative, in the other class of cases. My idea of duty, in such matters, is this: "oppose with firmness the unworthy applicant," and when a piece of timber has been brought in, "which is unfit for the builder's use"—when the fruit of the tree is evil instead of good—go forward with equal firmness and earnestness: "cut down and cast it out."

## ANOTHER DRAWBACK TO FREEMASONRY,

Is the many other secret societies in this country. Although most of them, and perhaps all, have objects in view most praiseworthy, still I am inclined to believe that a conscientious man who is a Freemason risks something when he joins another secret society. How can he assume new duties until he knows they will not conflict with those he has already obligated himself to perform? There may be exceptions, but it strikes me as a rule,

that those who hasten to take upon themselves new duties, are apt to relax in the performance of those already binding upon them. In fact, if we discharge well every duty devolving upon us as Masons, we may be perfectly content with the good we have done, as far as any worldly institution resting upon good morals only, could enable us.

It is also believed that the higher degrees of Masonry, as organized and worked separately and apart from the blue lodge, have seriously injured Ancient Craft Masonry.

Another danger, and perhaps the most potent of all, lies in the fact that too many of the secrets get out of the lodge and are communicated to the world. This is done both by the tongue, and by the pen. Therefore tyling the tongue, and pen, as well as the lodge, are indispensable to the well-being of the institution. True, Masonic writers have been of great service in elucidating and beautifying the history and tenets of the order, subsequent to the "low twelve" in its history, when the secrets slept among the rubbish; but the great trouble is that whilst many of those writers have been our most devoted and distinguished Masons, yet they do not seem to have understood the necessity of writing under a veil, and they have underrated the intelligence, not only of the public, but also of the fraternity. The result is that too much has been written, as well as indiscretely and untimely spoken, in regard to the true secrets of Freemasonry. Both pen and tongue have an important part of the work to perform, but I insist for the good of the institution, that each should limit its operations to the proper sphere and place.

There may be a remedy for these things, but I confess my inability to see how it can be reached by legislation. Our laws are already plain and stringent enough against the free talker, but lodges fail to enforce the discipline. Can it be possible that Masters who have made solemn vows, and taken upon themselves the obligations of the highest office in the lodge, can be at fault in these things? East, West, and South, I conjure you to look well to these matters. At this late day, I am utterly at a loss to know what can be done in the matter of restricting, or limiting, book Masonry.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

3. That a Masonic lodge-room should not be used or occupied by persons who are not Masons.

\* \* \* \* \*

Should we not, like men and Masons, "rise up as with one voice," and say away with all modern loose practices and innovations on the "body of Masonry." Let us risk nothing simply on the score of policy. Why, my brethren, it would be far better that we should hold our meetings "on high hills or in low vales," there to talk and work Masonry, than to meet in some room, to which everybody has access, as soon as the lodge is closed, where jewels, books and records may be inspected and perchance an original petition, with report of committee on it, or a slip of paper containing a ballot, might be picked up and taken away. These things have been done time and again.

\* \* \* \* \*

6. That a lodge cannot change the amount of annual dues after it has been once fixed, except by resolution introduced at a stated meeting, and after notifying the members, adopted at a subsequent regular meeting. Such changes should always be made in the latter part of one year, and to apply to the future, as they cannot operate retrospectively.

\* \* \* \* \*

8. That the loss of one-half of the little finger of the right hand is not a physical disqualification for being made a Mason.

\* \* \* \* \*

11. The report of a committee may be withdrawn from the secretary, and amended by the committee, at any time previous to its reception by the lodge, after which, however, it is the property of the lodge, and cannot be altered, in any wise, except by consent of the lodge, but a committee is not entitled to longer time to make report, than that at which the report is due.

\* \* \* \* \*

A brother has the right to cast his vote privately against an applicant for membership, which of course would reject, and here the matter would end, but if the member should state to other members that he objected on the ground of unmasonic conduct of the applicant, he is in duty bound to prefer charges against him, although a non-affiliate.

The Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence presented a lengthy report; from it we select:

Every chartered lodge has full power to call before it and punish according to Masonic usage, not only its own offending members, but all offending Masons, residing or sojourning within its jurisdiction, provided they are not members of some other chartered lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. If the offending Mason is a member of any such lodge, the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides, should first send up charges and specifications to the lodge in which he holds his membership; but should said lodge refuse or neglect to take action in the premises, then the lodge in whose territorial jurisdiction he resides should proceed to try him according to Masonic usage and report the result of said trial to his own lodge.

\* \* \* \* \*

Membership in the chapter and council confers no rights in the lodge. A dimitted Mason cannot serve on any committee of the lodge. His acts as such are neither legal nor binding, and his appointment without warrant and therefore null and void.

*Question 6.* Some members of——lodge who live ten or twelve miles from the lodge room, a few of whom seldom attend the lodge, are accustomed to hold meetings at a grange hall, (which hall is every way secure,) for the purpose of lecturing and going through the forms and ceremonies. Are such meetings proper and legal?

*Answer.* It is the privilege of brethren to rehearse to each other the



work and lectures for purposes of instruction, but they have no right to form an independent organization and elect officers.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ministers of the gospel must pay for each degree in advance just as any other applicant. Such is the law. Let it be observed.

Our old friend M. W. Bro. J. M. Howry, presented a very able and instructive report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Lodges, some of them for two years—Minnesota included.

We regret that limited space will not permit extracts from this very interesting report.

M. W. Charles T. Murphy, of Durant, was elected Grand Master; and

R. W. J. L. Power, of Jackson, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Jas. M. Howry, of Oxford, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

### MISSOURI, 1878.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Missouri was held at St. Louis, October 15th, 16th and 17th, 1878.

M. W. Thomas C. Ready, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and sixty-two lodges represented.

Four hundred and ninety-nine on the roll.

Sixteen dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The Grand Master presented a most excellent address.

Under the head of "Necrology," among others, he announced the death of one whose acquaintance we made many, many years ago, and in whose society we have spent many hours receiving Masonic information, and whose, "Fragments of the Times," is one among the most valuable in our library. M. W. Joseph Foster, died May 22, 1878. The Grand Master says:

For forty years, he missed the annual communications of the Grand Lodge but three times.

His venerable form will be missed from these halls.

His earnest words of instruction and admonition will be heard no more.

He has gone to rest. His chair in the Grand East is vacant, and the emblems of mourning with which it is draped, speak in mute but strong



language of the grief which fills the hearts of his brethren, upon his demise.

\* \* \* \* \*

His remains were laid in state in Masonic Hall, and were visited by a large number of citizens, friends and brethren, thus attesting the high esteem in which he was held by all.

“ So falls one of the old forest trees,  
Within whose shades we wandered with delight;  
Moss-grown and hoary, yet the birds of heaven  
Loved in its boughs to linger and to sing;  
The summer winds made sweetest music there;  
The soft spring showers hung their brightest drops,  
Glistening and cheerful on the mossy spray.  
And to the last, that vigorous, ancient oak  
Teemed with ripe foliage.”

Of our P. G. M. James C. Braden, he says:

The sound of mourning over loved brethren has not been confined to this Grand Jurisdiction.

Scarce had the departing footfalls of the members of our last annual communication ceased to echo through these consecrated halls, when a telegram was received from R. W. A. T. C. Pierson, Grand Secretary of Minnesota, conveying the sad intelligence of the death of M. W. James C. Braden, Grand Master of Masons of that State.

He had sought the balmy air of Southern Texas, in the vain hope of regaining his health, and had died at San Antonio, December 10th, 1877.

\* \* \* \* \*

All along the route, the craft paid passing honors to the distinguished dead, and when apprised of the approach of the funeral train to our city, I hastily summoned to my assistance Bros. Luke, Stubblefield, Vincil, Parson, Burgoyne, Mayo and Prall, and met the train at the southern part of the city.

The bereaved widow and children and Bro. Fisher were conveyed to the Lindell Hotel, and the body, under an escort of the brethren, was placed in Lynch's parlors, until the eventide, when they were embarked upon the train of C. & A. railroad, and, with the sincere sympathy and condolence of the craft of Missouri extended to the widow and fatherless, we bade them adieu.

Appropriate resolutions were presented and adopted by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota, expressive of their profound gratitude to the Masons of Missouri, for the fraternal courtesies extended the family and the remains of their deceased Grand Master, whilst passing through St. Louis.

Of P. G. M. A. J. Wheeler, of Tennessee, he says:

The maxim, “Death loves a shining mark,” was fully realized in the demise of Bro. Wheeler, editor of the *Masonic Jewel*, at Memphis, Tenn.

Like a brave hero, when the yellow fever scourge reached Memphis, he fled not, but remained to watch with, and care for, the sick and dying of his brethren and friends and neighbors.

He labored assiduously for several weeks, but finally was himself stricken with fever, and in a few hours was numbered with the dead.

He fell as a martyr to duty. The memory of his self-sacrificing devotion to suffering humanity will ever remain green and fresh in the hearts of the people of the South.

“ We, too, shall come to the river’s side

One by one;

We are nearer its waters each eventide,

One by one.

We can hear the noise and dash of the stream

Now and again, through our life’s deep dream :

Sometimes, the floods o’er the banks o’erflow ;

Sometimes, in ripples the small waves go

One by one.”

Among the numerous decisions reported, we note :

No petition for membership can be received until the petitioner shall have been vouched for as a Master Mason.

\* \* \* \* \*

Neither Entered Apprentices nor Fellow Crafts are entitled to Masonic benefits. These are confined exclusively to Master Masons.

\* \* \* \* \*

A dimit, without other Masonic evidence, is not sufficient lawful information to warrant the reception of a petition for affiliation.

The application of a dimitted Master Mason for membership in a lodge, may be received, notwithstanding he may not be able to sign his name to his petition. He cannot be held responsible for the error of the lodge who conferred the degree upon him in violation of law.

\* \* \* \* \*

The removal of a Worshipful Master, or any other elected or installed officer from the State during his term of service, does not disqualify him or vacate his office.

\* \* \* \* \*

A lodge upon granting a dimit to a member, can only charge him with dues to the date of his dimission, and if he should have paid his dues in advance for the year, the amount exceeding his dues to date of dimit, must be refunded to him.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Worshipful Master elect of a lodge must receive the degree of Past Master prior to his installation.

\* \* \* \* \*

The dues of a member may be remitted by vote of the lodge, and no reconsideration of such action is legal.

\* \* \* \* \*

A lodge cannot be opened at any other place than that named in their charter, except by dispensation from the Grand Master, or by authority of the Grand Lodge whilst in session.

A lodge cannot open either in regular or called meetings with less than seven members of the lodge present.

The following resolution was referred to a special committee to report at next Annual Communication :

*Resolved*, That any two or more lodges in this jurisdiction may consolidate and form one lodge by unanimous consent of all the members present after due notice that such action will be had at a regular meeting of such lodges, to be united under the name and charter of the Lodge selected, and the property of the lodges ceasing to exist shall become the property of the consolidated lodge.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Bro. John D. Vincil, embracing a review of fifty-one Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

He says, in conclusion—

A “conclusion” is as necessary as a commencement. A report on Foreign Correspondence must have a “conclusion” as necessarily as a school-girl’s letter the inevitable “Postscript.” To us the “conclusion” has been a coveted point. We have reached it. Our review is ended. As our first effort, we have more regrets than pleasure concerning it. The chief one is that it is so much longer than was intended or desired. Inexperience misled us. Want of knowledge permitted an unlooked for extension, both as to comments and selections. Our chief conviction in this “conclusion” is that we should have concluded fifty or sixty pages sooner.

In that “conviction” *we do not* concur, and yet we have quoted so freely from the proceedings that we are forced, much to our regret being obliged, to omit extracts.

A word in private to Bro. Vincil, you say under the head of Minnesota—

His reviews are kind and just; his selections judicious, and his criticisms discreet. Missouri was not noticed because our proceedings failed to reach the reviewer in time. Minnesota meets in January, and Missouri in October—about three months difference. Certainly time enough for our proceedings to have been furnished the Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

They did reach Minnesota, and the evidence is to be found on pages 129, 130, 131, 132 and 133, of our proceedings for 1878.

We regret that Bro. Vincil did not see that part of our report,

as we tried to show the Masonic world that we appreciated the kind offices of himself and other Grand Officers to the widow and orphans of our late Grand Master, on their mournful journey home.

M.·. W.·. Noah M. Givan, of Harrisonville, was elected Grand Master; and

R.·. W.·. John D. Vincil, of St. Louis, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

### MONTANA, 1877.

The Thirteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Montana was held at Helena, October 2nd and 3rd, 1877.

M.·. W.·. Julian M. Knight, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Eighteen lodges represented.

Twenty-two on the roll.

The Grand Master read an address of more than usual excellence, we present a few extracts:

Every lodge should collect sufficient dues from its members to support itself in a creditable manner. It is not my intention to advocate extravagance, but I do think that our lodge rooms should be comfortably furnished, and well warmed, well lighted, and well ventilated. They should be made so cheerful and attractive—such a pleasant place to spend an evening, that a brother will feel that he is deprived of a great pleasure when circumstances prevent his attending a meeting. If the financial condition of the lodge will permit the expense, there is nothing that will contribute more toward the enjoyment of the members than a good library; and our leisure moments can be employed to no better advantage than by reading good books. Brethren, let us make every effort to render our lodge rooms more attractive.

\* \* \* \* \*

Masonry is condemned by its enemies because it is a secret society. While it is true that Masonry does its work in secret, it cannot be said that we conceal our principles or designs. No society or sect in the world carries out the duties of relieving the distressed, of comforting the widow and the fatherless, as faithfully and invariably as the Masonic fraternity. Masonry advocates and upholds everything that is calculated to promote the happiness and best interests of mankind; and while pursuing its mission on earth, opens its doors and invites the good men of every nation to enlist under its banner. It asks no one to go beyond his means or capacities—requires of us no more than we can perform; only our duty to God, our neighbor, and ourselves.

\* \* \* \* \*

One of the greatest evils in a lodge is the misuse of the ballot. The evil may come by a clear ballot for an unworthy candidate, or by a black-ball for a candidate who is every way worthy to become a Mason. Masonry is defrauded in every case where the ballot is cast with an unworthy motive. I am aware that in nine cases out of ten reflections are right; and that ten men are wrongfully initiated where one man is wrongfully rejected; and that if our outer doors were more closely guarded, there would be less necessity to purge our lodges of unworthy members. And while I feel that it is the positive duty of each member of a lodge to cast a black-ball when he feels that the applicant is unworthy to become a Mason, I must unqualifiedly condemn the motives of that brother who uses it to gratify a petty personal spite, and thereby refuses admission to a man who would otherwise become a much better Mason than he is himself. Deeply as we may regret the fact, we must admit that there are Masons in name who so far forget duty and honor that they do not hesitate to use the ballot box as an instrument of vengeance.

\* \* \* \* \*

Masonry is not a temperance organization; yet temperance is one of the cardinal virtues of the order. Masonry is not a religious order; but it advocates a high standard of morality, and teaches us to square our actions by the unerring rule of God's sacred word.

Masonry is not a school for reformatton; therefore those who indulge in those vices should not be permitted to enter our door. We are responsible for the character, and are judged by the acts of our individual members; and when a brother wilfully violates that resolution, and persistently refuses to listen to words of admonition, it is not charity for his lodge to tolerate such continued wrong-doing. It is only self-preservation that such punishment as the nature of the case demands should be promptly inflicted.

The Jurisprudence Committee reported on a peculiar case.

Bro. A. applied for a dimit to one of the lodges in that jurisdiction, the lodge reported the following facts, and asked instructions:

A. applied for and received the degrees in lodge O., sometime after dimitted and affiliated with lodge L., removing from the jurisdiction applied for a dimit. A. had resided in Montana a number of years, maintaining a high character, and had accumulated considerable property, but he joined the lodge under an assumed name. The committee reported—

Further information from those intimately acquainted with him shows that he, while a youth, became a defaulter, left his home, and evidently for the purpose of concealment assumed his fictitious name.

That, after many years having accumulated considerable means, he re-

turned home, settled the amount of which he was a defaulter with his creditors, and re-assumed his correct and true name, which name is withheld in this report, as your committee are informed by his friends that he has thoroughly reformed.

\* \* \* \* \*

When a man applies for the degrees of Masonry, our regulations and usages are such as to require him to make his application in an honest, fair and straightforward manner; in addition to other requirements he shall sign the petition with his true name. He is obligated by his true name, and deception on his part in either particular, is not warranted by any custom of our order, and is a fraud upon the fraternity. By his own confession, this applicant is guilty of this fraud, and your committee are of the opinion that he alone should bear the consequence; and that the Grand Lodge, instead of undertaking to gloss the same over, and thereby becoming a party to it, should unqualifiedly condemn all such action.

The Grand Lodge directed its subordinate to strike the name from its records.

The committee withhold the true name of the party, and we are glad that they did so, as the party is said to be a resident of this State.

We never did believe that the scope of Masonic *Charity* meant the giving of two dollars and a half to a party in need of assistance. In our view the Grand Lodge took the proper course in the premises.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported on the subject of avouching:

1st. A Mason may vouch for another if he has sat in a lodge with him.

2d. He may vouch for him if he has subjected him to a skillful private examination; but such avouchment should be taken with caution by the Master of a lodge, and only from one who is known to him to be sufficiently skilled to make such examination.

3d. He may also vouch for him if he has received positive information of his Masonic character from a competent and reliable brother who has obtained his information by either the first or second method, and who at the same time points out to him the brother to be vouched for, so that he may be seen and identified; but great caution should also be exercised by the Master in receiving this kind of avouchment.

4th. The best and safest avouchment is that which can be made by a committee specially appointed by the Master of a lodge to examine and report upon the Masonic qualifications of one desiring to visit a lodge, and should be most frequently resorted to. Masons, as a rule, should be exceedingly cautious in exercising this right.

None but Master Masons have the right to vouch in that or the inferior degrees.

We notice a curious feature in the record :

The Grand Master elect then announced the following appointments :

\* \* \* \* \*

And, on motion of the Grand Secretary, the several appointments were duly confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

The Constitution authorizes the Grand Master to make certain appointments, what has the Grand Lodge to do with it? Suppose that on the motion of the Grand Secretary the Grand Lodge had said No—which it had the right to do, if it had the right to say Yes—there would have been a fix.

Bro. Cornelius Hedges again presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, in which he gives a brief review of the proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

We can assure Bro. Hedges, that his conclusions are right, the Grand Lodge of *Minnesota* is not and will never be a trespasser.

We can give but one extract from his exceedingly well written report.

Under the head of Minnesota, we find :

Grand Orator Durant has discovered by evidence satisfactory to himself that Joseph, when in Egypt, founded Masonry. We could all compromise on the basis that Joseph would make a good patron and pattern for modern Masons in some respects. But not all Josephs are like the favorite son of old Israel. We have had one ranging Montana this season, about as chased as him of yore, and planting lodges around our porders which we wished were many miles away.

M. . W. . William A. Clark, of Deer Lodge, was elected Grand Master ; and

R. . W. . Cornelius Hedges, of Helena, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1877-1878.

An Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire was held at Concord, May 16th, 1877.



M. W. John J. Bell, G. M., presiding.

Fifty-four lodges represented.

Ninety-one on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

From the decisions reported, we note :

II. Masons should appear in public as such, for the performance of some Masonic work and for no other purpose.

III. In the absence of any constitutional provision, a candidate should present himself for initiation, or for the degrees within a reasonable time. What is a reasonable time is a matter for the Master to determine, under all the circumstances of the case.

\* \* \* \* \*

VII. Lodges never adjourn. A lodge may be called from labor to refreshment to be called to labor again thereafter, but in such case the Master should not permit the brethren to separate and go home and again re-assemble. If the business of the lodge is not finished, and it is time for the brethren to separate, the Master may close his lodge till a given time, then to be re-opened and the business finished, and for some purposes that will be a continuation of the same meeting but not necessarily for all.

The reports of the District Deputies indicate that the craft in New Hampshire is in a flourishing condition financially and otherwise.

The Committee on Trials and Appeals had a few cases for review before them. One was a case of expulsion; the charge upon which conviction was had, was, "did cheat and defraud the said Wentworth out of a pair of pantaloons,"—new trial ordered on account of informalities.

We present an extract from the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence :

1. That no landmark or ancient rule of Masonic law requires the presence of seven Master Masons for the transaction of business. On the contrary, three Master Masons anciently constituted a Master's lodge.

The word "anciently" is a very convenient word, it is said that Solomon and the two Hiram composed a Master's lodge; with reference to that epoch the word "anciently" is perhaps applicable; but since the organization of lodges under charter, the presence of seven Master Masons have been considered necessary to do business legitimately. We question whether the word "anciently" is appropo in that connection.



The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Bro. Joseph E. Bennett, in which is reviewed the proceedings of thirty-nine Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota not included.

The report is a very good one, but as we find no subject noticed that has not heretofore been presented to our readers, we forego extracts.

M. . W. . John J. Bell, of Exeter, Grand Master ; and

R. . W. . John A. Harris, of Concord, Grand Secretary, were each re-elected.

Bro. Albert S. Wait, of Newport, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The Eighty-ninth Annual Communication was held at Concord, May 15th, 1878.

M. . W. . John J. Bell, G. . M. ., presiding.

Fifty-three lodges represented.

Ninety-three on the roll.

Of the decisions reported, we note :

1. A brother raised in a lodge who does not sign the by-laws within six months, stands toward the lodge precisely as any other non-affiliate, and can become a member only in the same manner as though made in another lodge. If a case of mere carelessness or inadvertence, the lodge may, in its discretion, remit the adjoining fee ; but that is within its discretion only.

2. In such case he may join another lodge without a dimit, as having never been a member of a lodge, he could not dimit therefrom. It is not necessary that he should become a member of the lodge in which he was raised so as to get a dimit with which to join another lodge.

3. A brother dimitted from a lodge in Cincinnati, in January, 1872, and in the summer of 1877 desires to affiliate with a lodge in this State. The mere lapse of time since the dimit was granted, is not of itself a legal bar to his reception.

\* \* \* \* \*

6. A man brought up within the jurisdiction of a lodge, removes to another place for two years, and then returns to the home of his youth : he must remain there twelve months before he can present a petition for the degrees.

With reference to " 1," suppose the brother is willing, nay, anxious, to " sign the by-laws," but by neglect or forgetfulness of

the Secretary the opportunity to do so is not afforded him, is it right, just, or Masonic to deprive him of the privileges of membership?

The election thereto, makes the member, just as the vote granting a dimit severs the connection, and the minutes of the transaction is the evidence. We admit, however, that if the party *refused* to sign the by-laws, his election should be declared void.

*Ante*, we noticed a change of name after initiation and the action of the Grand Lodge thereon. We present the decision of the Grand Master on a case that occurred in New Hampshire :

5. An orphan, Samuel Middleton Garlick, was brought up by an uncle and assumed his name, Samuel Garlick Middleton,—by such name was known until manhood, and by that name was made a Mason, signing the by-laws Samuel G. Middleton. Subsequently he returns to the name of his parents, and chooses to be called Samuel M. Garlick. The Secretary of the lodge asks how shall his wishes be gratified so far as the lodge records and books are concerned.

Answer. Nothing more is necessary than to place upon the books a note that the person who received the degrees and became a member of the lodge by the name of Samuel G. Middleton, is now known by the name of Samuel M. Garlick.

The Grand Master in very appropriate terms announced the death of R. W. Bro. John A. Harris, the Grand Secretary, which occurred September 3, 1877.

Transactions of local interest.

Bro. A. S. Wait presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, comprising a review of forty-one Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1877 and 1878 included.

We present but one of the many matters that we find in the report that is well worth reproduction :

We regard the right to grant such dispensations as inherent in the Grand Master, and beyond the power of the Grand Lodge to abolish or limit. The only remedy for any supposed danger from the improper use of this power, is the careful and judicious selection by the craft, of the person in whom the high prerogatives of the Grand Master shall be vested. It is our own individual opinion, however, that the power to grant such dispensations, if it could, ought not to be taken away. Although it should, doubtless, be exercised with great care, and only in cases of real emergency, yet we think the power should exist somewhere; and if it is to exist at all,

we see no other so proper depository of it as the official head of the order, to-wit, the Grand Master.

M. W. Solon A. Carter, of Keene, was elected Grand Master; and

R. W. George P. Cleaves, of Concord, elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Albert S. Wait, of Newport, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

### NEW JERSEY, 1878.

The Ninety-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey was held at Trenton, January 16th and 17th, 1878.

M. W. Marshall B. Smith, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and thirty-five lodges represented.

One hundred and forty-seven on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

For a number of years past each annual communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey has been opened with the singing of an original ode written for the occasion.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

6. A lodge is under no obligation to pay bills for funeral or other expenses unless such expenses were incurred by express permission or direction of the lodge, or in accordance with some provision of its by-laws.

7. A notice in the newspapers is not a legal summons. It is only information to those concerned.

\* \* \* \* \*

9. Dimits received and filed at the organization of a lodge, become the property of the lodge when it is constituted, and cannot be returned to the original holders.

10. The dimit accompanying an application for affiliation becomes the property of the lodge when the applicant is elected, and cannot be returned to him at any time thereafter.

\* \* \* \* \*

17. When a lodge surrenders its warrant and becomes extinct, its members cannot affiliate without certificates from the Grand Lodge. For a like reason, candidates who have been rejected in such lodge, cannot apply to any lodge for initiation without the consent of the Grand Lodge, if in session, or of the Grand Master if in the interim.

18. It is not proper to require bonds or security from the treasurer or trustees of a lodge.

19. The trustees of a lodge may be incorporated, and thus exclude from courts of law all matters except those of finance; but the incorporation of lodges makes them practically independent of this Grand Lodge, and is unmasonic, and is hereby prohibited.

The latter part of "17" is a legitimate sequence to the "perpetual jurisdiction" dogma, all of which dogma we believe to be at variance with true Masonry.

Commenting on his decision "19," the Grand Master quotes from the address of a former Grand Master :

I have lately given this subject some examination, and the conclusion to which I have arrived is, that the incorporation of Masonic bodies is subversive of the true principles of Masonic government, and inimical to the prosperity and perpetuity of the institution. \* \*

It sweeps away the appellate jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge and Grand Master, and subordinates the Masonic to the civil authorities upon questions strictly Masonic.

If it should become necessary, for the purpose of holding the title of real estate or investing money, that an incorporated company should be created, I would recommend that, in all cases, some association outside and independent of the lodge should be chartered. In such case, while courts would have control over the body which might be chartered, they would have no control over or right of interference with the affairs of the lodge.

In the adoption of the following resolution, the Grand Lodge appears to be inclined to maintain the reputation of the State for patriotism :

*Resolved*, That the M. . W. . Grand Master be recommended to issue a circular letter to the several subordinate lodges of this jurisdiction calling their attention to the matter of the erection of a monument on the battlefield of Monmouth, and soliciting contributions from the several lodges for the purpose of aiding this patriotic effort to commemorate that glorious event.

It appears that some of the Masters of lodges in that jurisdiction are not familiar with the Regulations of the Grand Lodge, the following was introduced :

*Resolved*, That all persons initiated in lodges in this jurisdiction in violation of the Sixth General Regulation, if any there be, are, and they are hereby declared to be, irregularly made, and are not entitled to the benefits and rights of Masonry until properly healed.

The "Sixth Regulation" reads—

6. No lodge under this jurisdiction shall receive any petition for *initiation* or *admission*, except at a regular communication thereof; and no ballot shall be taken upon such petition until one month after its presentation, and at a stated meeting of the lodge, at which no less than seven members shall be present; nor shall a candidate be advanced until one month has elapsed after receiving a degree, and he has exhibited suitable proficiency therein in open lodge.

After considerable discussion the resolution was adopted.

We do not understand the propriety of punishing a party for a crime of which he is not guilty.

The received rituals, in answer to the question, "What makes you a Mason?" say, "My \* \* \* \* \* ." But our brethren of New Jersey appear to deny the proposition:—How is an initiate to know whether all the forms have been complied with? And not knowing, why should he be declared irregular, when made in a regular lodge? We do not appreciate the "Jersey" justice in that.

The following ode was sung in closing:

(*Air*—AULD LANG SYNE.)

Our toil is o'er, the time has come  
When we must say farewell,  
Each one to seek his cherish'd home  
Where all his loved ones dwell.  
Then round the altar form a ring,  
Each Craftsman tried and true,  
A hymn of thankfulness to sing,  
And bid a kind adieu.

Now let us wish each Brother dear,  
And those that he loves best,  
A happy lot while pilgrims here,  
A happier with the blest,  
As round the altar—heart to heart  
Each Craftsman tried and true—  
We sing in chorus, ere we part,  
Adieu! a warm adieu.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-one Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included—was presented by Bro. James A. Norton. It sustains the high reputation conceded to the New Jersey reports.

We have a strong *penchant* for New Jersey, and a disposition to make extracts from the very able report before us, but the printer stands at our elbow waiting for copy, and we must forego the pleasure.

M.·. W.·. Marshall B. Smith, of Passaic, Grand Master; and  
R.·. W.·. Joseph H. Hough, of Trenton, Grand Secretary,  
were each re-elected.

Bro. Hough is also Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

### NEW YORK, 1878.

The Ninety-seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New York was held in the City of New York, June 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th, 1878.

M.·. W.·. Joseph J. Couch, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Six hundred and sixty-six lodges represented.

Seven hundred and seventy-eight on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The address of the Grand Master is comprised in eleven pages,—a brief document considering the large, varied, and necessarily clashing interests, embraced in a circuit of near eight hundred lodges—and yet there is no ambiguity, he covers the whole ground of the workings in his jurisdiction.

Under the head of "Obituary," he notices the death of a number of prominent brethren in New York and other States, among them R.·. W.·. Bros. Enoch P. Breed, Royal G. Millard, Ezra S. Barnum and Orrin Welch.

Bros. Breed and Millard were known to a large number of the brethren in this jurisdiction, a goodly number first received Masonic light at their hands.

R.·. W.·. Ezra Barnum was eighty-five years of age; he was Junior Grand Warden at the time we made his acquaintance in 1845.

R.·. W.·. Orrin Welch was better known as a Knight Templar, as such, all leading Templars in this State had met him, and formed for him a strong attachment.

To correct some misapprehension on the part of the "German

League," relative to the status of Foreign Correspondence Reports, the Grand Master says :

The reports of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence are considered by us as matter of information only; that the brethren who make these reports are distinctly understood to give us, in a condensed form, the opinions and acts of Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, and also such individual comments thereon as they may deem wise; that the publication of these reports in our transactions is solely for the information of the brethren; that, in merely accepting and publishing these reports, the Grand Lodge does not undertake to pass judgment upon their contents; that, in fact, these reports cannot have any official or binding character, except when the Grand Lodge shall give such force and effect to the whole, or any portion thereof, by special resolution or other express enactment. Fully appreciating the valuable services of our committee in collating facts and opinions from other jurisdictions, and conceding to them all that is due to the individual judgment of well-informed brethren, we at the same time readily distinguish between the running comments of a committee and the deliberate acts of the Grand Lodge.

Under the head of Jurisprudence, we have another instance of a Grand Master overruling the decision of a previous one, notwithstanding that the Grand Lodge had approved the first decision. We cited the first decision at the time as being a—curious one. He says :

In the case of a brother unaffiliated for non-payment of lodge dues, the question is often asked : Do lodge dues accrue against such brother during the period of his unaffiliation? In 1876, the Grand Master gave an affirmative decision in these words : " His dues continue to accrue against him after such unaffiliation." This decision was approved by the Grand Lodge, and thus obtained the force of a general regulation. This action, however, has not settled the matter. The conflict of opinion still continues, and is wide-spread. The original question is constantly repeated, and followed by others, as for example : Do such dues accrue by the simple force of the above decision, regardless of the by-laws of the individual lodge? Or is it necessary to engraft upon the by-laws a provision that shall give effect to this ruling?

This decision, if valid, should be found in agreement with the law, which it purports to declare. What, then, is the law? Section 46 of the Statutes declares that " a lodge shall have power to enact a by-law which shall provide a penalty for the non-payment of dues, which penalty shall be unaffiliation." That is all; it does not say unaffiliation plus something else, but simply and solely unaffiliation. Under the explicit wording of the statute, any additional penalty would be contrary to law. The imposition of lodge dues during the period of such unaffiliation, either by a by-law of the lodge, or by a Grand Master's decision, would be an additional penalty, unless that condition is common to all unaffiliated Masons. A careful scrutiny of



our constitution and statutes fails to discover any provision that imposes lodge dues upon unaffiliated Masons, or that empowers a lodge to enact a by-law for that purpose. It certainly will not be claimed that any such imposition is made by the landmarks or unwritten law; for the practice was wholly unknown to us previous to the adoption of the present constitution. The only point that remains for examination is the closing phrase in Section 46. The whole clause sets forth the manner in which a brother, suffering the penalty of unaffiliation, may be restored to membership, and closes with these words: "Provided he shall have paid the amount due at the time of such restoration." The fancied ambiguity of this proviso has occasioned the whole difficulty; but in fact the proviso has nothing whatever to do with the question. It neither fixes the "amount due," nor provides the way to fix that amount. It simply provides that whatever amount may be legally due, must be paid before restoration. We conclude, therefore, that so much of the Grand Master's decision as declares that lodge dues continue to accrue during such non-affiliation, is contrary to law, and should be reversed.

\* \* \* \* \*

In theory, our constitution is the fundamental law. It contains those principles and provisions of Masonic government, which are intended to be permanent. It furnishes the criterion by which the validity of all general or special legislation is to be tested, and supplies the standard to which all details of organization and administration must conform. But in practice we have no fundamental law. We have instead a double system of law-making. We legislate on the one hand by making frequent amendments to the constitution, and on the other by adopting decisions of Grand Masters, and giving to such decisions the force of General Regulations.

\* \* \* \* \*

A constitution is adopted and distributed among our seven hundred subordinate lodges. It is potential in all matters of organization, administration and discipline; questions arise regarding the force and application of its provisions. The questions are decided by the Grand Master, and these decisions, approved by the Grand Lodge, become laws. These laws once made, are not changed. Meanwhile, changes are made in the constitution. New provisions are added, and old ones modified or repealed. The original text disappears from the printed copy, and the amended text takes its place. After a time, we shall find that decisions made in conformity with the constitution have ceased to accord with that instrument; that laws enacted at different times are irreconcilable with each other.

\* \* \* \* \*

In this connection it is well to note that by our present constitution "all general governmental powers, whether executive, legislative, or judicial," are reposed in the Grand Lodge. The Grand Master is empowered and charged "to exercise all the executive functions of the Grand Lodge, when it is not in session." He is also clothed with certain judicial functions. But he is nowhere invested with legislative powers; and in doing such things as are inherent in and pertain to his office, he is controlled by the proviso, that they "are not in conflict with this constitution." Under the



law, then, it follows that Grand Masters' decisions are made in the discharge of executive or judicial duties, and in no way partake of the nature of legislative enactments. They express the force and effect of existing laws, applied to specific cases. They are in essence, authoritative conclusions, derived from mixed premises of law and fact, and should find their full justification in the law and facts that called them forth. To separate these conclusions from their premises and give them the force of General Regulations, certainly tends to confusion. There can hardly be a doubt that our laws will be better defined and more easily understood if we discriminate clearly, and always between the several functions of enactment, of administration, and of adjudication.

The matter of wholly discontinuing the practice of giving decisions the force and character of legislative enactments and of substituting therefor some simple and purely legislative method is, therefore, submitted for such action as you may deem judicious.

The following amended "Statute" was adopted:

46. A lodge shall have the power to enact a by-law which shall provide a penalty for the non-payment of lodge dues, which penalty shall be unaffiliation; but such penalty shall not be inflicted except for the non-payment of at least one year's dues, nor until the brother shall have been duly summoned thirty days previous, to pay said one year's due. Any such unaffiliated brother may be restored to membership by a majority vote of the members present and voting at a stated communication; *provided*, he shall have paid the amount due at the time of such restoration."

The report on Foreign Correspondence was—as of yore—presented by Bro. John W. Simons.

The report embraces a review of the proceedings of Grand Lodges classified as follows:

- 1st. "Grand Lodges in the United States." Numbering forty-five—those of Minnesota included.
- 2d. "Grand Lodges in the Dominion." Seven in number.
- 3d. "All other Grand Lodges."

Some thirteen are included in the latter class. The report presents a very full resume of the proceedings of the foreign Grand Bodies, and is a particularly interesting feature of the report.

The term "Venerable," is frequently applied to Bro. Simons, if by that term the idea intended to be conveyed is that he gives evidence of advancing years, it is misapplied, as in any social assemblage of Masons, when he is present, the conclusion is in-

evitable that he is the youngest of the party ; but if meant to apply to his services to the craft and Masonic acquirements, we acknowledge the fitness of the term with the prefix—" Very."

Can lodge B. confer the degrees upon a candidate on the request of lodge A?

Bro. Simons, under the head of Maine, says :

We are unable to understand why a lodge may not ask as a favor and another grant as an act of fraternal courtesy the conferring of degrees on an accepted candidate, temporarily within the jurisdiction of the second lodge. The main and responsible part of the work has been done by the accepting lodge in the investigation of the character of the candidate, and the lodge approval of the same by ballot. The mere rehearsal of the ceremonies is a mechanical act of comparatively little importance, provided always that it be done in and by a just and duly constituted lodge ; nor do we see why there should be any question as to the membership of the candidate who is accepted by lodge A, which does not propose to cast him adrift, but only asks a peer to oblige it by conferring the degrees. It seems as if it might be possible to be over scrupulous in these affairs.

Under the head of Minnesota, he says :

Our rule is that a brother desiring to change his affiliation from one lodge to another *in this jurisdiction*, cannot have personal control of the certificate of dimit. That passes from one lodge to the other as the case may require, and the brother is allowed the largest liberty in making changes of affiliation, only, as just remarked, he cannot have personal custody of the certificate. The reason is that for many years past we have been annoyed with a swarm of chaps possessing dimitts from one to twenty years old, who used them as certificates of good standing and enjoyed all the privileges of the craft by their help. Desiring to put a stop to this, and believing that the man who both works *and* pays ought to have some privileges over and above the non-affiliate who does neither, we adopted the present law which, as we have already intimated, is working smoothly and well. Our brethern in other jurisdictions will understand that this is purely a domestic matter, and governs only our own household. For those who permanently remove from the jurisdiction, the law remains the same as before, and *they* can get a regular old-fashioned dimit. If any of them abuse it, that will be the fault of the brethern within whose jurisdiction they may happen to be ; but in New York for the immediate future at least, there will be no visiting on old dimitts, valuable principally for their adipose qualities.

Under the head of North Carolina, we find :

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Bro. E. G. Reade, and occupies about one page of the proceedings. May we be allowed to suggest that while looking over the transactions of correspond-

ing bodies, he finds the Grand Lodge of New York or the Grand Lodge of North Carolina mentioned forty times, that fact does not detract from the interest that each separate jurisdiction may feel in knowing how the craft are getting along in North Carolina or any other jurisdiction, and therefore that it is well that each of us should publish, through its committee, a few words of commendation or criticism, as the case may be, in order that the rest may know that we are still alive and still laboring to promote the welfare of the craft. Nor is this all; we each desire to know the views of the rest on pending questions of great interest to the whole craft, and there can be no better medium of communication than through these reports. Now, more than ever before, is their examination of facts and carefully digested conclusions to their finding. The brethern who make the report on Correspondence cannot possibly have any other object in view than the greatest good of the fraternity, and every Grand Lodge should avail itself of the services of some competent brother in its midst to study and place before it the whole light that can be shed upon our present relations to each other, as well as our duty to the trust committed to us.

Whew! the clock has just struck 3 A. M.

M. W. Edmund L. Judson, of Albany, was elected Grand Master; and

R. W. James M. Austin, of New York, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. John W. Simons, of New York, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

#### NORTH CAROLINA, 1877.

The Ninety-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina was held at Raleigh, December 4th, 5th and 6th, 1877.

M. W. Horace H. Munson, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and twenty-seven lodges represented.

Three hundred and fifty-six on the roll.

Six lodges under dispensation, three issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

1. A motion seconded and stated by the presiding officer, is the property of the lodge, and cannot be withdrawn without their consent.
2. All members in good standing, are entitled to vote, even if it be on their own petition for dismission.
3. A motion seconded, and stated by the presiding officer, must be put, unless properly withdrawn, the Master cannot ignore it.

\* \* \* \* \*

9. Financial difficulties between Masons should, if possible, be adjusted amicably, but it is not unmasonic, when other means fail, to bring an action at law.

10. A Master has the power to summon orally, but otherwise the summon should be issued through the secretary, in writing, with seal of lodge attached.

\* \* \* \* \*

14. A notice with seal of lodge and signature of the secretary, mailed through the post office to a brother's supposed or last known place of residence, is a legal notice.

\* \* \* \* \*

Though unwise, it is not unmasonic to declare what he will do in certain cases proposed. The criminality lies in declaring the act performed; for instance, you cannot try a Mason for saying he will blackball a candidate; but if, after he is blackballed, he makes the declaration that he has done so, he violates an edict of the Grand Lodge, and is liable to prosecution.

\* \* \* \* \*

20. Has a W. M. the power to place a P. M. in the East to confer degrees, when the S. and J. Wardens are present, and willing to serve? He has, provided he is present while the chair is so filled, he being the best judge of the qualification of his wardens.

\* \* \* \* \*

23. Any Past Master, in good standing, is competent to act as installing officer.

24. Any Master Mason, in good standing, can preside in the East, being called thereto by competent authority, such authority remaining present while the East is so filled.

It would seem unnecessary to proclaim from a Grand East some of the foregoing decisions, or yet to reproduce them in a report, but all are not learned in the law, membership is constantly increasing, brethren are elected to office who have never consulted records of the time before their initiation, hence the necessity of repetition.

With reference to the Grand Orient of France, the Grand Master says:

Can we respond fraternally to brethren, who impliedly say, they want no God in Masonry, and have no faith in the immortality of the soul, who bring discredit upon an order which, from time immemorial, has recognized the Great I Am as a being supreme above all things, who, with maddened profanity, write over the doors of their Masonic Temples: There is no God; Death is an eternal sleep? Of what use, then, would be your temples of worship? How worse than mockery your funeral ceremonies, how delusive all lofty aspirations, how hopeless the expectation of eternal life in that land where we believe perpetual youth and spring abound? With

one heart and voicelet Masonic America respond to this insulting proposition of misguided France, bringing such a pressure to bear as will result in restoring the stricken landmark to her mutilated constitution, or let that fraternal chain be broken, which now symbolizes and links us together a band of brothers. Principles are worth more to us than men, pureness of heart, than bonds of brotherhood.

Remove this foundation stone, upon which our beautiful Masonic Temple in all the grandeur of sublimity rests, and around which the affections of our hearts fondly cluster, and there will be none so poor as to do it reverence.

There is a Temple, tho' unseen,  
Built not by human hands,  
Which has not here alone its home,  
Nor yet in foreign lands;  
A Temple wrought with wondrous skill,  
Surpassing matchless art,  
Where Masonry delights to dwell,  
It is the human heart.

Long may it be ere time shall write  
Upon its hidden face,  
That God, the revered, pure and good,  
In Masonry hath no place;  
Then brethren, guard this Temple well,  
Nor let its truth depart,  
Above all others, prize the most,  
This Temple of the heart.

The Orphan Asylum, supported by the Grand Lodge, has one hundred and twenty-four inmates.

The following was adopted :

2. That orphan children be received from eight to twelve years of age, and discharged at sixteen, or earlier, at the discretion of the Superintendent, subject to the control of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

3. It shall be the duty of every lodge to pay to the Orphan Asylum five dollars for every person initiated, and not less than five cents a month for every member on its roll, and to state in its annual returns to what extent this duty has been performed.

Transactions of local interest.

M. . W. . Horace H. Munson, of Wilmington, Grand Master ;  
and

R. . W. . Donald W. Bain, of Raleigh, Grand Secretary, were  
each re-elected.

## NEBRASKA, 1878.

The Thirty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska was held at Omaha, June 18th and 19th, 1878:

M.: W.: G. W. Lininger, G.: M.:, presiding.

Fifty-seven lodges represented.

Sixty-seven on the roll.

Four dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

We commend to careful consideration the following extracts from the address of the Grand Master :

We regret that we, individually and collectively, as Masons, are not doing all in our power to aid and assist each other in every laudable undertaking.

\* \* \* \* \*

We regret that so many Masons belong to other secret societies, not but what the objects of these societies are good and praiseworthy, but because we believe that a conscientious man who is a Freemason, risks something when he joins another secret society. How can he assume new duties until he knows they will not conflict with those he has already obligated himself to perform. And again, many innovations of the fundamental laws of Masonry are introduced by these liberal minded men who hold membership in various societies. They are not safeguards for the ancient landmarks of the order.

We regret that our lodges are not properly tiled; too many secrets get outside of the lodge room.

We regret that members of our beloved institution are known to indulge in the use of intoxicating drinks, profanity, gambling, quarreling, back-biting, cheating and defrauding--vices which deprave and brutalize a man.

We regret that many of our members, who are actuated by the true spirit of our society, and who practice its teachings, are withhold ng their presence and support because of the evils we speak of.

We regret that lodges are slow to notice and bring to discipline those who thus offend.

\* \* \* \* \*

What is the cause of all this negligence on the part of Masons? My answer is, a lack of discipline; and the remedy is to make them live up to their professions. If a brother does wrong do not sympathize with him to such an extent that the fraternity will be disgraced, but enforce the rules and adhere to the principles of Freemasonry if it reduces our membership to one-half its present number. Do it and we will guarantee a good attendance at our meetings, and twice, aye, thrice, the good will be accomplished.

When you discover a member is violating his obligations, warn him of his danger immediately. Use every means in your power to reclaim him.

Do your whole duty in this respect, and we will have comparatively few to punish. Several prominent members have been saved from a drunkard's grave during the year just passed, through the kind efforts of a few good, true Masons.

Among the decisions reported we note :

7. Any lodge can file objections in another lodge against conferring of either of the degrees; but the reasons must be given, and if of a trivial nature they may not be recognized, otherwise they must be respected.

8. That no Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer or Grand Secretary can, at the same time, be the Master or Warden of a particular lodge.

9. That a dimitted Master Mason has the right to petition and join any lodge of Master Masons, no matter where he may reside.

Transactions of local interest.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . Edward K. Valentine, of West Point, was elected Grand Master; and

R. . W. . William R. Bowen, of Omaha, re-elected Grand Secretary.

### NEVADA, 1878.

The Fourteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nevada was held in the City of Virginia, June 11th, 12th and 13th, 1878.

M. . W. . Merrill P. Freeman, G. . M. ., presiding.

Nineteen lodges represented.

Twenty on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

That Masonic burial can only be given by a lodge duly opened.

We can see no impropriety in Masons, as such, burying a deceased brother in a place where there is no Masonic lodge.

No. 3. Can the Master of a lodge impose a fine upon a member of a committee for failing to report?

*Answer.* He cannot.

\* \* \* \* \*

No. 4. A member of a neighboring lodge, becoming dissatisfied, dimit and now applies to my lodge for the purpose of affiliating. Is it proper to receive his application?

*Answer.* It is. It would seem that the only grounds in this case on which to base a doubt as to the propriety of receiving the application, are, did the lodge err in granting the dimit, the reason for demanding it being that the brother applying for it was dissatisfied. In the first place, if he is in good standing he is entitled to a dimit on *any* grounds or *no* grounds; in other words, he need assign no reason whatever.

\* \* \* \* \*

If a member of a particular lodge is not in harmony with some other member or members, and feels that he would prefer to withdraw and unite himself with some other lodge, why should he not be permitted to do so? The question of his being received by the lodge lies with the individual members of that lodge, each and any of whom can, and have, a perfect right to prevent his doing so.

We notice *ante*, that a question was arising relative to the authority of Grand Master's decisions, how long they remain in force, &c.

Grand Master Freeman says:

No. 5. I observe in the proceedings of one of the oldest Grand Lodges a decision of the Grand Master which is approved by the Grand Lodge, so opposed to my ideas of a proper view in the case, that I take advantage of the first opportunity to get an expression of the Grand Lodge as to the rule that shall obtain in this jurisdiction. The decision is to the effect that the decisions of a Grand Master are law only during his term of office, and although approved by the Grand Lodge they do not remain law after his term expires.

In order to bring this before the Grand Lodge, I shall take a hypothetical case and decide that a decision of the Grand Master, approved by the Grand Lodge, so long as it does not contravene the ancient landmarks as approved or the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, is law and must be so regarded and observed until changed by the Grand Lodge, which alone has power to alter it.

On Foreign Correspondence he says:

No. 6. The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence has become the largest, most important, and most interesting part of the proceedings. Here, within the space of a comparatively few pages, is spread before us a synopsis of the transactions of all the American Grand Lodges. The chairman of the committee has carefully selected such parts as will be of interest to us and rejected the balance. We can now within a few hours get the benefit of the combined wisdom of the numerous Grand Lodges; whereas, if we ourselves had to go through the fifty and odd proceedings, the task would be left undone. Without intending any invidious compar-



ison, I feel justified in saying that the reports from our committee compare favorably with those of any other jurisdiction among the many with whom we hold intercourse. Without these reports the proceedings would be dry and uninteresting indeed.

The following report of the Committee on Jurisprudence was adopted :

“Are officers, appointed by the M. . W. . Grand Master, for the session, to fill vacancies in appointed offices, members of this Grand Lodge, and as such, entitled to vote?” have given the same careful consideration, and report as follows : The appointment of an officer to fill vacancy, *pro tempore*, at the opening of the Grand Lodge, in the place of the regular appointed officer, who may chance to be absent at the opening of the Grand Lodge, does not confer any additional voting privileges, more than he may be entitled to, as the representative of his lodge, or by being a permanent member of this Grand Lodge, by having filled one of the offices that entitles him to such permanent membership. If, at the opening of the Grand Lodge, the M. . W. . Grand Master should appoint any brother to fill any vacant station, *pro tempore*, who is not a member of the Grand Lodge, such an appointment does not make him a member, and consequently does not entitle him to vote unless the regular officer who had been previously appointed and duly installed, has been removed, and the newly appointed officer be regularly installed in the place of the brother removed. In that case, the brother, thus appointed, would succeed to all the rights and privileges appertaining to the office, and not otherwise.

A few years since the Grand Lodge adopted a plan of life membership—by paying one hundred dollars into the treasury the brother became a life member and exempt thereafter from paying dues. For some reason the system has not worked satisfactorily ; the Committee on Jurisprudence reported in favor of abolishing the system, and that those who had availed themselves of it should be permitted to return their certificates and receive back the money paid therefor, which was adopted by the Grand Lodge.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-seven Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included—was, as usual, presented by “V. . W. . Robert H. Taylor,” who is well deserving the encomiums, as a reporter, paid to him by the Grand Master in his address.

He says in his notice of Minnesota :

On the evening of the first day of the session, a Lodge of Sorrow was held. Addresses were delivered by Ill. Bro. R. A. Jones, 32°, Grand Orator, (we are sorry the brother was *ill* for the thirty-second time, and hope he has recovered,) by R. . W. . Henry R. Wells, Past Grand Senior

Warden, by *plain* Bro. James H. Baker, and by Ill. Bro. Charles Griswold, Past Grand Master (who is reported as ill only thirty times.) The addresses are well-written and full of brotherly feeling.

\* \* \* \* \*

We do not mean to offend any one by the matter in parentheses in the foregoing statement. We admire the titles belonging to the Scottish Rite, in their proper places. Our opinion, however, is that such titles should not appear in the records of either Grand or constituent Lodges of "Ancient Free and Accepted Masons."

In reporting a ceremony of the Ancient and Accepted Rite—*Scottish* Rite is a misnomer—the terms appertaining to the Rite should be used.

Lodges of Sorrow are borrowed from the A. . and A. . R. ., the proceedings had were published as appendant to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. We believe in rendering unto Cæsar all that belongs to him.

We deprecate the use of terms belonging to another rite, in our American system, as much as our good brother Taylor.

We cannot forego presenting the conclusion to Bro. Taylor's report:

#### CONCLUSION.

- " Amid the dust of theologic strife  
 I hungered with a want unsatisfied.  
 Heaven while I lived, as heaven when I died,  
 Was what I craved; and how to make sublime  
 And beautiful my life,  
 While yet I lingerd on the shores of Time.
- " To judgment swift my guides in doctrine came:  
 Which one lived out the royal truths he preached?  
 Which one loved mercy, and ne'er overreached  
 His weaker brother? And which one forgot  
 His own in other's claim,  
 And put self last? I sought, but found him not,
- " And wept and railed because religion seemed  
 Only the thin ascending smoke of *words*—  
 The jangling, rude, of inharmonious chords;  
 Until—my false inductions to disprove—  
 Across my vision streamed  
*The glory of a life aflame with love.*

“ One who was silent while his brethren taught,  
 And showed me not the beauties of his creed,  
 But went before me, sowing silent seed  
 That made the waste and barren desert glad;  
     Whose hand in secret brought  
 Healing and comfort to the sick and sad.

“ Aglow, I cried, ‘Here all my questionings end;  
 Oh, what is thy religion, thy belief?’  
 Smiling, he shook his head with answer brief—  
 This man so swift to act, so slow to speak—  
     ‘ In deeds, not creeds, my friend,  
 Lives the religion that I humbly seek.’

“ And soft and sweet across my spirit stole  
 The rest and peace so long and vainly sought;  
 And though I mourn the graces I have not,—  
 If I may help my brother in his need,  
     And love him as my soul,—  
 I trust God’s pardon if I have no creed.”

M. . W. . Henry L. Fish, of Reno, was elected Grand Master ;  
 and

R. . W. . John D. Hammond, of Carson, was elected Grand  
 Secretary.

Bro. R. H. Taylor, of Virginia, Chairman of Committee on  
 Foreign Correspondence.

### NOVA SCOTIA, 1878.

The Thirtieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of  
 Nova Scotia was held at Halifax, June 5th, 6th and 7th, 1878.

M. . W. . J. W. Laurie, G. . M. ., presiding.

Forty-nine lodges represented.

Seventy-four on the roll.

The address was very brief, mainly confined to a report of  
 official acts.

One extract :

We have to-day revived an old and honored custom that had for some  
 time past fallen into disuse. As Masons it has always been our custom in  
 the privacy of our Grand Lodge to invoke the blessing of the Most High  
 on our work carried on there, but, especially after the late action of the  
 Grand Orient of France, I felt it was but proper that we should in the most

public manner place before the community in which we live, and the world at large, the religious character of our order, and our recognition of our Supreme head, the source of all light and goodness. Should it be, as I trust may be the case, the wish of the craft to continue this custom, it would be desirable that the hour of meeting of the Grand Lodge should be changed, so that the arrangements for formally opening the Grand Lodge and attending Divine service can be made more convenient.

The reports of the District Deputies indicate that Masonry in Nova Scotia is in a healthy condition. if not as flourishing, financially, as might be desirable.

The committee appointed at a previous session to "collect Masonic Documents," reported having succeeded in getting possession of the original warrant of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, dated June 2d, 1784.

And they have also collected the continuous line of minutes of proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge thus formed, up to 5866, when the name was changed to the "District Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia," and the committee are in possession of the minutes of same up to 5869, when the Masonic bodies under the various authorities holding jurisdiction in the Province united.

The committee have also the Grand Lodge Registration Book, containing names of candidates raised between 5784 and 5819, and the Register (and copy) of Warrants issued between 5784 and 5828, as well as the Letter Books from 5792 to 5825, inclusive.

Bro. A. J. Crowe presented an able report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-nine Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

We present one extract from under the head of Idaho :

If one ballot, clear, entitles the applicant to the three degrees of Masonry, and if no further balloting is required, why should we allow a simple objection, made, perhaps, by a very simple individual member of the lodge to operate as a "perpetual blackball"—a bar to all further progress in the craft.

What a power for mischief this practice of estopping places in the hands of thoughtless and imprudent members! The objector has simply to rise in his place and say: W. . Sir, I object; no reasons are asked for because no reasons can be demanded. *Hoc volo, sic jubeo, sit pro ratione voluntas* says one of Juvenal's characters, and so may say any cowardly brother. The W. . Master who is placed in the East to rule and govern his lodge is as powerless as an infant in the matter, and the objector, without a reason to give for his objection, becomes master of the situation. We can understand an "I object," followed by a charge and consequent trial, where the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft has the opportunity of self-defence;

but in the other course we think we see an absence of that simple justice which every initiate, is or ought to be entitled to.

M. . W. . J. Wimburn Laurie, Grand Master ; and

R. . W. . Benjamin Curren, Grand Secretary, were each re-elected, both of Halifax.

Bro. A. H. Crowe, also of Halifax, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

### OHIO, 1877.

The Sixty-eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio was held at Columbus, October 16th and 17th, 1877.

M. . W. . Charles A. Woodward, G. . M. ., presiding.

Four hundred and forty-five lodges represented.

Five hundred and thirteen on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

1st—A lodge cannot confer the distinction of honorary membership upon one of its own members.

2d—A lodge may not adopt a resolution whereby members who have not paid their dues for the current year shall be deprived of their right to vote at the annual election of officers, because members cannot be deprived of their rights of membership by a mere resolution of the lodge.

\* \* \* \* \*

5th—It is not proper for a lodge, in the absence of any by-law upon the subject, to require any of its officers to give bonds for the faithful performance of their duties.

The colored question is still being agitated, the following was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be directed to correspond with all the Grand Lodges of the United States, with which we are in communication, upon the subject of the lodges of colored Masons, with the view of agreeing upon some course of action in regard to said lodges which shall be acceptable to the majority of said Grand Lodges, with instructions to report to the next communication of this Grand Lodge.

We remember having heard something about the head that wears a crown being uneasy ; we were reminded of the idea by the following :

## RECEPTION OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE.

Bro. Thomas L. Young, of Excelsior Lodge, Cincinnati, was presented to the Grand Lodge, and responded in a speech to the fraternal greeting extended to him. [He declared he would rather be Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio than Governor of the State; further, that he would rather be Master of this lodge than Governor of Ohio.]

Under the head "Report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence," Bro. John D. Caldwell presents a document of 124 pages; much of it is of historical interest, to those who desire to be informed of isolated matter connected with Capitular Masonry, the Templars Orders, and the A. . and A. . R. .

M. . W. . William M. Cunningham, of Newark, was elected Grand Master—another reporter gone up—and

R. . W. . John D. Caldwell, of Cincinnati, re-elected Grand Secretary.

## OREGON, 1878.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Oregon was held at Portland, June 10th, 11th and 12th. 1878.

M. . W. . Robert Clow, G. . M. ., presiding.

Fifty-eight lodges represented.

Sixty-nine on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The address of the Grand Master was confined to a *resume* of his official acts.

The Grand Lodge has an Educational Fund amounting to \$16,961.61.

The following resolution reported by the Committee on Masonic Law was adopted:

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge the only competent authority to open a subordinate lodge is the Worshipful Master, or in his absence the legally chosen Wardens by priority of rank. A Past Master may then, if requested, do the work of the lodge.

We can see no objection to Wardens calling to the East a Past Master in the absence of the Worshipful Master of the lodge; there are many reasons why such a course might be eminently proper and advantageous to the lodge.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of twenty-five Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included—was presented by Bró. S. F. Chadwick,—a model report, though brief. The proceedings of sixteen Grand Lodges were left over to digest for next report—received too late to notice.

Under the head of Minnesota, he says :

We can conceive of nothing more solemnly beautiful than a Lodge of Sorrow. We regret that we have not space for portions of the proceedings. If brethren cannot find anything good in Masonry, let them kneel in a Lodge of Sorrow and there reflect.

\* \* \* \* \*

It would seem to us that upon this proposition, too, the resolutions, taken in connection with the report, give no uncertain sound. They enunciate clearly the conclusions of this Grand Body, and the reasons for such conclusions, it seems to us, are not only free from ambiguity, but so clear there need be no misapprehension to their significance, and it seems to us further, that the conclusions reached and the reasons given, are eminently satisfactory, and can see no good reason why they should not be sustained.

\* \* \* \* \*

We are reminded of many things of the past. There is a class of old time Masons and Bro. Pierson is among them. They are the pilots of Masonry; they are the counsellors; they are its leaders; they have for a fifth of a century steadily and prudently conducted the Masonic craft; they have sought no new and gaudy harness, but have conducted themselves with the old rigging, strong and heavy, made for all time and for all Masons. The strain upon it is felt in every part. It will never wear out. If a brother thinks he can break it or pull it to pieces, he finds his mistake in due time. It shines brighter and brighter with age, and he who wears it to the end, adjusted in every part, does so with honor.

M. . W. . Robert Clow, of Dallas, Grand Master ; and

R. . W. . R. P. Earhart, of Portland, Grand Secretary, were each re-elected.

Bro. S. F. Chadwick, of Roseburg, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

## PENNSYLVANIA, 1877.

We have an Abstract of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for the year 1877.

Five hundred and forty-six lodges on the roll.

Three hundred and seventy-five of which are active.

The Annual Communication was held at Philadelphia, December 27th, 1877.

“R. . W. .” Robert Clark, G. . M. ., presiding.

Sixty-six lodges represented.

We notice in the “Report of the Stewards of the Stephen Girard Charity Fund,” that one applicant hailing from Minnesota, received \$20.

The Grand Officers are elected at the Quarterly Communication preceding the Annual, at the latter the out-going Grand Master delivers a valedictory address, and the new, an inaugural.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a brief review of the proceedings of forty-three Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included—was presented by Bro. Richard Vaux, a name equally well known in Masonry as in jurisprudence.

We present an extract from the beginning of the report :

The landmarks of Masonry are the foundations on which the craft can only build for security and perpetuity. They are as the “faith once delivered to the saints,” and apostacy as to either must invite the condemnation of those who, holding fast to the end in hope, expect the reward of being faithful. Whenever or wherever the landmarks are assailed, either covertly, insidiously, or by a combined effort, with a purpose however concealed, or for a pretext ever so plausible, or on a pretended justification colored by specious of popular delusions, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will firmly resist all such assaults, let the consequences be what they may. There can be neither unity nor harmony with those who, calling themselves by name we reverence and honor, deny those solemn, binding obligations by which the craft is cemented together, like stones in a great temple, by the force and value of these landmarks.

Pennsylvania has no mission in Masonry either to proselyte or reform. As we received the faith so we propose to hand it over to those who come after us, neither changed or altered in jot or tittle. But Pennsylvania feels that she has a mission to preserve, conserve, protect and defend the foundations of Freemasonry. Not exulting, not proclaiming, not subversiveable, not meddlesome, not as a busy-body seeking for a cause to intervene in the affairs of others that do not concern her, yet firm as the eternal hills, bold as truth, sincere as a Samaritanian devotee, modest, earnest, and unpretending Pennsylvania will exercise her high prerogative as a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons to enter her judgment against those who are false to Freemasonry, and within her jurisdiction put prohibition on false doctrine, heresy and schism.

It is but too apparent to the observing and thoughtful of the craft, that there does exist a restless spirit of innovation, here and there which is seeking to “reform,” modify, and make more acceptable to some, who regard themselves wiser in their generation than the children of light, the



severe tests and binding principles of the ancient fraternity. The problematic philosophy of the student is mistaken for the teachings of the preceptor, and the glare of some scientific production of light which, are alike introducing mischief into Masonry. It has been said "that error is harmless if truth is left free to combat it," and in the exercise of this freedom is to be found the sure safe-guard for the fraternity of Freemasons.

It should ever be remembered that there must be prudence in trying to do right, if good is to come out of the effort. We accept this rule as obligatory; but right must not be put in peril by prudential inaction.

\* \* \* \* \*

Human genus in modern days of Masonry cannot expect, if it does it has failed in realizing it, to be a Solomon either in wisdom or power, in glory or achievement; but human faith to-day can animate the zeal of the sincere and humble of the craftsmen to stand around the foundation of the Temple, if they cannot reach its pinnacle, and prevent its profanation or its destruction by some visionary zealot, rude skeptic, an emotional torch-bearer of false light, or a pretender, who, mistaking error for the similitude of truth, is seeking notoriety to find only a grave and a fame as a disciple of *Eratostratus*.

\* \* \* \* \*

The destructive agencies of Time have failed to impair, obscure or destroy these landmarks. Interpretation, a novel or loose construction of their strict intent and meaning, must not do what Time has failed to accomplish.

Disruption of the craft is more to be deplored than the loss of ends or purposes, which can only be reached by violating the accepted meaning of the fundamental law. What benefit can result from injecting into this law new features by interpretation or whims of individuals, to subserve special ends or conciliate some who seek to put mere theories into practice in localities, and by this means divide the fraternity into factions or separate bodies? But can the landmarks be impaired by either legislation or interpretation? We reject such a proposition as impossible if Freemasonry is to maintain its peculiar individual character. There is no authority which will permit it. The ancient craft ceases to be what we regard it to be, desire to maintain, support and abide by, when it becomes something else by novelties, innovations or changes which interpretation is used to force into it.

The result of the change thus made is disruption of the fraternity. To awaken feud is un wisdom. The fraternity has been distracted in the past by antagonisms which have been ended after long suffering.

Under the head of Minnesota, he says :

If we may be permitted to express an opinion, there is very little color for clandestine Masonry in Minnesota.

The following from his conclusion, is well worthy of the consideration of Grand Lodges,—“go slow,” is a very good motto in Masonry :

While it may be that some of these Grand Bodies, yet unnoticed, are entitled to fraternal recognition, our judgment has not been convinced that proper Masonic grounds exist for such recognition by Pennsylvania. There is a weighty responsibility resting upon a Grand Lodge of the craft, when it casts its voice for the admission of a new member into the sisterhood of sovereign Grand Lodges. The impulse of Masonic friendship impels to extending the hand of fellowship to those who ask admission, but the calm and conservative course which Masonic prudence dictates, is to wait until no doubt presents itself as to the propriety of such action. The harmony and unity of the sisterhood of Grand Lodges, and the cordial relations that should exist between those that exchange recognition and communication, are too important to be put in jeopardy by the introduction among them of an organization of the craft whose character has not been tested by observation and the experience which grows out of it. We prefer to maintain cordial amity between those that we recognize, ourselves, and the craft in general, so far as our action is concerned, rather than run a risk, however remote, of disturbing it.

“ R. . W. . . ” James Madison Porter, was elected Grand Master ;  
and

R. . W. . John Thomson, re-elected Grand Secretary, each of Philadelphia.

#### PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1878.

The Third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island was held at Charlottetown, February 20th, 1878.

R. . W. . John W. Morrison, D. . G. . M. . , presiding.

Nine lodges—all on the roll—represented.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The time of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was changed from February to June.

Transactions of local interest.

Pertaining to a perfection of the organization—

M. . W. . John Yeo, of Port Hill, Grand Master ; and

R. . W. . B. Wilson Higgs, of Charlottetown, Grand Secretary,  
were each re-elected.

#### QUEBEC, 1877.

The Eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec was held at Montreal, September 26th and 27th, 1877.

M. W. James Dunbar, G. M., presiding.

Fifty-two lodges represented.

Sixty-two on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The address of the Grand Master related to matters of local interest.

The Grand Lodge is endeavoring to establish a Monthly Journal, the committee estimate that one-fourth of the Masons in the jurisdiction would become subscribers: unless they have a larger proportion of reading Masons over the border than we have on this side, the estimate should be reduced more than one-half.

A brother had been initiated and passed in a lodge, but rejected by ballot for the third degree, "The Board of General Purposes" reported a resolution directing the lodge to confer the third degree and to furnish the brother with a Grand Lodge certificate.

In another case, a brother, after initiation, was by vote of his lodge "put on probation for six months." The Board reported the action unconstitutional, and directed the lodge to proceed to confer the second and third degrees. The Grand Lodge adopted the report in each case.

The following was adopted:

That no Mason shall belong to more than one lodge at the same time (except he be an honorary member, as provided for by the constitution.)

This, however, not to apply to brethren who are members of more than one lodge at the time of passing this resolution.

Any member of a lodge wishing to affiliate with another lodge must present his application in the usual form, and if his application be accepted in said lodge, his membership shall remain in abeyance until his dimit from the former lodge to which he belonged is surrendered to the last mentioned lodge, when he shall become a full member.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland has formally recognized the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and fraternal relations are established, Representatives exchanged, &c.

There are several lodges in the jurisdiction working under warrants received from the Grand Lodge of England, and recognizing it only.

Provision was made for Foreign Correspondence reports in future.

We would suggest to the Grand Secretary to revise the printed

list of Representatives, unless the Grand Lodge of Quebec desire to continue on its list an expelled Mason as its Representative.

M. W. Melbourne M. Tait, of Montreal, was elected Grand Master; and

R. W. J. H. Isaacson, also of Montreal, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. H. W. Nye, of Ironhill, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA, 1877.

The *One Hundred and First* Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina was held at Charleston, December 11th and 12th, 1877.

M. W. W. G. De Saussure, G. M., presiding.

One hundred and fifty-six lodges represented.

Two hundred on the roll.

We are in a quandary; we started with the determination to make our report brief, the printer has caught up and we find that instead of shortening we are five or more pages in advance of last year, and right here a historical disquisition presents itself which is interesting to the Masonic inquirer; should we quote the part of the Grand Master's address relating thereto, we must also present a lengthy communication from a Past Grand Master, &c., all of which will occupy more than a dozen pages. We are not possessed of the faculty of condensation, but we propose to try our hand.

The Grand Master from his investigations became satisfied that the year 1877 was the centennial year of the establishment of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, and recommended that the Grand Lodge celebrate the occasion in a suitable manner.

The Grand Lodge concurred, and it was agreed that there should be an oration, and other public ceremonies.

A Past Grand Master was selected as orator, who accepted the appointment. Subsequent investigation satisfied the orator that the date of the organization of the Grand Lodge was 1817, and accordingly declined to serve; the final result was, nothing done, but the Grand Secretary prefaces the year's proceedings with "One hundred and first Annual Communication."

The Grand Master says: "Masonry was inaugurated in this jurisdiction by the organization of Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, on the 29th day of October, 1736."

An old "Hand Book" says, that St. John's Lodge, Boston, Solomon's Lodge, Savannah, and Solomon's Lodge, Charleston, were each chartered by the Grand Lodge of England in 1733.

The discussion developed the following:

A Provincial Grand Lodge was established in South Carolina in 1736 or 1737. Sir Egerton Leigh Provincial Grand Master.

Re-organized in 1754.

Declared itself independent, 1777, by resolution.

1781, by resolution, again assumed its character a Provincial Grand Lodge.

1783, again declared independence.

1778, another Grand Lodge—"Ancient York Masons"—was in existence.

1817, the two Grand Lodges united.

One, to us, strange circumstance in the foregoing, is, we have in our possession, a certificate issued by Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, in "Charles Town," South Carolina, dated 1756, to which the signature of Egerton Leigh is affixed as one of the Wardens, under Israel Caane, Master. Said to be Provincial Grand Master in 1736 or 1737, and in 1756, twenty years later, subscribed himself as one of the Wardens of a subordinate lodge.

The certificate was printed from an engraved plate, apparently made for "Provincial Lodge," as the word "Provincial" is erased and "Solomon's" written over it, and "No. 1," filled in after "Lodge." The term "Grand," does not appear.

It is supposable that if the body for whom the plate was engraved—evidently expensive—claimed or exercised any of the prerogatives of a governing body, the term *Grand* would have been used.

A committee was appointed to "hunt up the records" of the centennial of this Grand Lodge held in 1855.

If the committee cannot find the "certain brass box," we know where there is a copy of the proceedings had on that occasion.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

First. Application for initiation was made by one who was strîctured, but whose avocation in life was that of a mechanic, and whose strîcture did not prevent the exercise of great bodily strength.

\* \* \* \* \*

And I decided, overruling the District Deputy Grand Master, that a strîcture was not a main in such sense as prevented initiation.

\* \* \* \* \*

Second. \* \* 1. That one, where one had been erased from the rolls for non-payment of dues, pays up such dues, petitions for admission, and is rejected, he is not entitled to demand repayment of the dues so paid by him.

2. That no arrears accrue during such erasure, and any amount paid as for arrears so accruing he has a right to redemand.

\* \* \* \* \*

Third. \* \* 2. That it was not competent for the lodge at a subsequent communication to reconsider the subject, and again vote upon the quantum of punishment.

\* \* \* \* \*

1. The initiation, passing and raising of a candidate in a lodge, and his subsequent acceptance of an office, and regularly paying dues to the same, and for a number of years exercising all the privileges of membership, constitute him a member, whether he has subscribed his name to the by-laws or not.

\* \* \* \* \*

3. Suspension for unmasonic conduct by one lodge, is suspension by all the lodges of which the brother was a member, and it is not necessary that the brother be "tried" by more than one lodge.

\* \* \* \* \*

A brother owes the lodge for money borrowed while in distress, can the lodge refuse to grant him a dimit after he pays in full his annual dues? and if it can be proven that a brother owes his lodge and is able to pay it and will not, can the lodge prefer charges against him when the indebtedness is for borrowed money?

Upon which I ruled, that the two questions would, I thought, be covered by one answer, viz. : The lodge is competent to refuse the dimit if it is satisfied that the brother in question is able to pay the borrowed money, but it should in that case prefer charges against him for unmasonic conduct and allow him a fair trial. If it appears that he is still in distress and the money cannot be refunded by him, then the lodge can cancel the debt by its vote, and if the dues are paid in full upon his written application, grant him the dimit.

An extract from the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence :

We fully concur with R. W. Bro. G. T. Berg in his ruling, that the minutes of a subordinate Lodge cannot be confirmed when read from memoranda. It seems to your committee that the only true way of keeping the minutes of a lodge is the following :

The Secretary should be required by the Worshipful Master to read over for correction his memoranda of the proceedings of the lodge at the close of the communication, when all the proceedings are fresh in the minds of the brethren.

That by the next communication, the Secretary should have these proceedings so corrected, neatly copied in the minute book, to be read for confirmation, when if any errors have been made by the Secretary the same can be corrected. This method would ensure both neatness and accuracy.

\* \* \* \* \*

If the brother continues to visit the lodge, pays dues to it, takes part in its proceedings and work, and did not on the night of his initiation, or shortly thereafter, signify his intention of not becoming a member of the lodge in which he was raised, your committee is of the opinion that he should be considered a member of said lodge, and that he is liable for his dues to the lodge, and that the lodge is liable to the Grand Lodge for the fee of such member.

Bro. Inglesby again presented an excellent report on Foreign Correspondence, from which we would gladly present extracts, did space permit. The report embraces a review of the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

M. . W. . Bancroft W. Ball, of Laurens C. H., was elected Grand Master; and

R. . W. . Charles Inglesby, of Charleston, re-elected Grand Secretary.

### TENNESSEE, 1877.

The Sixty-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee was held at Nashville, November 12th, 13th and 14th, 1877.

M. . W. . Elihu Edmundson, G. . M. ., presiding.

Three hundred and thirty-three lodges represented.

Four hundred and eighty-eight on the roll.

Six under dispensation, two issued during the year.

Nine P. . G. . Ms. . present at the opening of the Grand Lodge.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

1. That neither a lodge under dispensation nor otherwise can give the degrees to a minister of the gospel free of charge.

\* \* \* \* \*

9. That a brother dropped from the roll is not chargeable with dues, as he then becomes a non-affiliate.

10. That it is not unlawful to have Masonic burial service at the grave of a deceased brother some time after interment, though I should advise against the practice.

\* \* \* \* \*

12. That a lodge cannot tax the members *pro rata* to pay the debts of the lodge.

\* \* \* \* \*

15. The lodges themselves must decide whether or not it is unmasonic for a brother to engage in "tippling." Edict 33 says, "It is the province of lodges under the restrictions prescribed by Masonic law and usage, to determine what pursuits, practices, or delinquencies are in violation of the moral law."

16. That it is competent for the son or father who is Master of a lodge to preside in the trial of the other, though I would say it would be in very bad taste for him to do so.

\* \* \* \* \*

20. That the Junior Warden does not accede to the office of the Senior Warden on the death of the Master.

\* \* \* \* \*

22. That a party suspended or dropped from the roll cannot be reinstated after death, so as to be entitled to Masonic burial.

Was it done? in accordance with the following:

*Resolved*, That while no violence is intended to the well-known modesty of P. G. M. A. J. Wheeler, he is respectfully requested to sit for his portrait while in this city, in order that the same may be preserved for the future use of this Grand Jurisdiction.

In a few months thereafter, M. W. Bro. Wheeler fell a victim to his zealous devotion to Masonic teachings. Repeatedly warned that his untiring labors for the sick and distressed at Memphis, during the scourge, would be fatal to himself; urged to seek rest and recuperation of almost exhausted energies, he persisted in remaining at his home, answering every call, doing all that human power could do to relieve distress, and finally became a victim, leaving a widow and two children. Such heroes should not be forgotten, or their families neglected.

Tennessee and Mississippi presents many similar instances of heroic courage and devotion, and the death roll among the fraternity which will be reported at the next meeting of those Grand Lodges, will be fearful to contemplate.

Transactions of local interest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota



included—was presented by Bro. George S. Blackie. We extend to Bro. Blackie a cordial greeting on resuming his old place among the M. A. S., of which he was an honored member in former years.

M.·. W.·. Augustus V. Warr, of Rossville, was elected Grand Master; and

R.·. W.·. John Frizzell, of Nashville, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

### TEXAS, 1877.

The Forty-second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas was held at Houston, December 13th, 14th, 15th and 17th, 1877.

M.·. W.·. Marcus F. Mott, G.·. M.·., presiding.

One hundred and forty-five lodges represented.

Four hundred and seventy-nine on the roll.

Thirteen dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The Grand Master says :

The spirit, philosophy and teachings of the order are being better understood and its great moral design more appreciated. Still, much remains to be done in this direction. There is yet much groping in the darkness by those who have been accustomed to consider the ritual and lectures as the sum and substance of Masonry—though I am happy to say that inquiry is awakening and the moral beauties and sublime truths of the order are being daily more and more unfolded in the light of earnest investigation. When every Mason in this jurisdiction comes to understand that Masonry means something more than lectures, attendance upon lodge meetings, and the payment of lodge dues—that it is something higher, nobler and better than a mere mutual aid association, a brighter future will take the place of the already bright present. The fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man find ample exposition in the spirit of our institution. It reaches into and touches the hearts and homes of men, their happiness and their moral welfare.

We note one of the decisions reported :

5. Question—Is a child, who had been legally adopted by a M.·. M.·., but of blood relation, entitled to the usual benefits secured to Mason's orphans, upon the decease of the adopted father?

Answer—No. Such rights accrue by virtue of the natural ties that exist between parent and child, and cannot be created by artificial relations.

Under the head of "Fraternal Dead," he says :

On the 9th inst., M. W. J. C. Braden, Grand Master of Masons in Minnesota, died at San Antonio, where he had gone with the hope of benefiting his health. This distinguished brother came to Texas some weeks ago with his family, seeking our western salubrious climate as a panacea for consumption. The disease, however, was too strongly fastened upon him, and after lingering several weeks he died in a strange land far from his home. The brethren at San Antonio gave him every attention, and did all in their power to soothe and comfort his last moments. His remains were prepared for removal to Minnesota and were escorted by the fraternity to the train. Anchor Lodge, No. 424, designated one of its members to take charge of the remains, and accompany the widow and children as far as Chicago, where they will be met by a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. The remains were received in Houston by Holland Lodge, No. 1, on the night of the 10th inst., and placed in its hall until the next day, when the lodge, under the immediate direction of our R. W. Deputy Grand Master, and escorted by Ruthven Commandery, No. 2, K. T., carried the remains in Masonic procession to the northern bound train. The brethren and lodges who thus bestowed care upon our distinguished brother in his last moments and paid appropriate respect to his remains, illustrated the teachings of our order, and are entitled to the thanks of this Grand Lodge.

Bro. Braden was elected Grand Master of Minnesota in 1876, and was re-elected in 1877. He served in that capacity with distinguished ability, and our brethren of Minnesota have our profound sympathy in their bereavement.

We append a part of the report of the "Committee on Grand Officers' Reports," in connection with the foregoing :

Your committee feel that nothing can be added to that portion of the Grand Master's address referring to the death of M. W. J. C. Braden, Grand Master of Masons in Minnesota, that would better express the sentiments of this Grand Lodge touching that painful circumstance, and therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved,* That as an expression of the feeling of the Grand Lodge of Texas for the death of M. W. J. C. Braden, Grand Master of Masons in Minnesota, the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby directed to send to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota a copy of those portions of the Grand Master's address, and of this report, that pertain to the death of the M. W. J. C. Braden; and that a like copy be also sent to the family of the deceased.

From the report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, we present :

It has been decided by this Grand Lodge on several occasions that a

lodge cannot demand and enforce the repayment of expenses incurred in burying deceased brothers belonging to other lodges.

It is the duty of every lodge of Masons to see that brothers dying in their jurisdiction have a decent burial, and for repayment of their expenses they can only rely upon that sense of equity and right which ought to govern every lodge.

On Sunday evening, Dec. 16th, a Grand Lodge of Sorrow was held in memory of the brethren who had died during the year.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, as usual, was presented by Bro. Cushing, and is, as usual, A. No. 1. The report embraces a review of the proceedings of forty-seven Grand Lodges.

Under the head of Minnesota, he says:

The report of Correspondence is by Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, and is complete, and as usual interesting. It embraces a notice of every Grand Lodge in North America, and takes, in the main, just views of matters brought under notice. His notice of Texas is friendly. He even goes so far as to approve of the expulsion of a brother who had expressed his contempt for the Bible, not however, says Bro. Pierson, "for his belief, but for his manner and mode of, and time and place selected for expressing such sentiments." That is a good admission from Bro. Pierson, and we accept it as a concession on his part as to appearances. Did it occur to him that in conceding this much he conceded the question? If a man has a right to feel a contempt for the Bible, he has a right to express that contempt, and no lodge has a right to deal with him for so doing. Bro. Pierson has always taken the ground that a Mason might disbelieve in the authenticity of the Bible, without prejudice to his standing as a Mason. In this position he stands in company with many leading Masonic writers of the day. Against it Texas cast her vote twenty years ago, and has reiterated it upon every occasion since. We stand where we always have; and a man now to be tried upon this point, must change his mind after he becomes a Mason. Unless sound upon that question he can never knock at our doors.

Masonry recognizes the right of every man to hold opinions upon any and all questions, but it does not recognize the right of Masons to give expression to opinions upon any and all subjects within the lodge.

The general rule is, that any question that will interfere with the peace and harmony of the lodge must be excluded, political and sectarian questions, have ever been considered as inadmissible, as tending to produce discord.

Again, no Mason has a right to introduce matter in a lodge that will wound the feelings of a brother; expressing contempt for

the Bible is bad enough outside, but when done in the lodge, shows such a willful and designed disregard for the feelings of the brethren that one guilty of such an act, should be placed in a position to render him incapable of repeating the offense.

We submit, Bro. Cushing, that we *have not* "conceded the question."

In this jurisdiction, belief in Deity and the immortality of the soul is the only test for initiation; but we repeat, what we have heretofore written, that we would exercise our individual right and reject a party that we knew had no veneration for the Bible.

We regret that we cannot make further extracts from Bro. Cushing's report.

M.·. W.·. Norton Moses, of Stricklinge, was elected Grand Master; and

R.·. W.·. Geo. E. Bringhurst, of Houston, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Bro. J. B. Likens, of Houston, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

### UTAH, 1877.

The Sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Utah was held at Salt Lake City, November 13th, 14th and 15th, 1877.

M.·. W.·. Joseph M. Orr, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Six lodges in the jurisdiction, and each represented.

We feel very much inclined to join issue with the Grand Master on some of his decisions, but the printer is waiting for copy.

He closes one decision with "this is a well settled principle of Masonic Law," perhaps it is in Utah, but it is violated in half the jurisdictions in this country.

From his "conclusion," we select:

In concluding my remarks I have only a few words to say: Twelve years ago there were no Masonic lodges in this Territory, and now, with a population of about 150,000 inhabitants, we have only six subordinate lodges, but that is not discouraging to the brother who studies our history as Masons and who understands the embarrassments with which we are surrounded; our prospects, however, for the future are every day growing brighter. I have seen during my residence in Utah, many bad men acquire power, and

fall because of their evil acts. I have seen good men driven from the Territory by the intolerant rule [of a fanatical priesthood, while others fell beneath the stroke of the assassin's dagger from which the bravest men recoil. It is not so now; the time has passed when men are compelled to obey the edict—"do as you are told and ask no questions."

\* \* \* \* \*

We say to the priests of the Latter-day Church, you cannot enter our lodge rooms—you surrender all to an unholy priesthood. You have heretofore sacrificed the sacred obligations of our beloved order and we believe you would do the same again. Stand aside; we want none of you. Such a wound as you gave Masonry in Nauvoo, is not easily healed, and no Latter-day Saint is, or can become a member of our order in this jurisdiction.

Which latter would lead us to the conclusion that he has not a very strong affection for Mormon Priests.

The Grand Lodge sustained the action of a subordinate in an appeal case, the sentence was suspension, the charge was using the following language: "As long as I am a member of Weber Lodge, No. 6, no confounded Jew or whiskey dealer, can become a member of the same."

An unsuccessful effort was made to amend the constitution, reducing the minimum fee for the degrees from seventy-five to fifty dollars.

Under the efficient management of the Grand Secretary, the Grand Lodge Library is assuming very respectable dimensions. Some years since the ladies in Salt Lake City formed a Library Association, hard times, &c., compelled them to abandon the enterprise after collecting some fifteen hundred volumes, which they turned over to the Grand Lodge.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-three Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included—was from the pen of that "ready writer," Bro. Diehl, and fully sustains his position in the M. A. S.

We do not comprehend the following:

Bro. Pierson, we don't believe that Grand Master Perkins, of California, likes to be called "our Utah Brother," he surely will object; and we advise you and Bro. McLallen, of Indiana, to keep henceforth on the good side with Bro. Hill, of California; he will stand no co-partnership with Brigham Young or any other too much married prophet.

We have examined our previous reports, but cannot find the basis for the allusion.

M. . W. . John Shaw Scott, was elected Grand Master ; and  
R. . W. . Christopher Diehl, re-elected Grand Secretary, and  
is also Chairman Committee on Foreign Correspondence, each of  
Salt Lake City.

1878.

January 3, 1879. Received the proceedings of the Grand  
Lodge of Utah, had at its Seventh Annual Communication held  
at Salt Lake City, November 12th and 13th, 1878.

Since the Grand Secretary of Minnesota demonstrated that the  
proceedings of the Grand Bodies could be printed and mailed in  
from ten to thirty days after the close of a session, others are fol-  
lowing in the same direction.

M. . W. . John Shaw Scott, G. . M. ., presiding.

Each of the six lodges on the roll was represented.

Relative to the difficulty between the Grand Lodges of Scotland  
and Quebec, the Grand Master says :

It appears to me that Quebec was wrong in attempting to force allegi-  
ance from a lodge established before its own organization ; as well might  
the Grand Lodge of Utah attempt to compel Masons residing in this Ter-  
ritory, but members of lodges in other jurisdictions to relinquish their  
membership and affiliate here. The same reasoning holds with the lodge  
as with the individual Mason, and while it is certainly desirable that all  
lodges within the defined limits of the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge  
should form a part of its councils and contribute to its support, yet it seems  
to me the Grand Lodge of Quebec, itself an offshoot from the Grand Lodge  
of Canada, could well have trusted to the mollifying influences of time and  
fraternal intercourse to bring about the desired change.

The Grand Master recommended a change in the constitution,  
to the effect that any member of a lodge would be eligible to any  
office ; the recommendation was concurred in, but lays over until  
the next session for final action. It is to be hoped that the Grand  
Lodge will not take such a radical departure from the old custom  
and usages of the institution, to say nothing of a violation of a  
generally recognized landmark.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was again presented by  
Bro. Diehl, and as usual, is particularly excellent and interesting.

The report embraces a review of the proceedings of forty-eight  
Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

M.·. W.·. Thomas E. Clohec, was elected Grand Master; and

R.·. W.·. Christopher Diehl, re-elected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, each of Salt Lake City.

### VIRGINIA, 1877.

An Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia was held at Richmond, December 10th, 11th and 12th, 1877.

M.·. W.·. Richard Parker, G.·. M.·., presiding.

One hundred and nineteen lodges represented.

Two hundred and thirty-three on the roll.

Eight under dispensation.

We present an extract from the address of the Grand Master :

Being informed by a District Deputy Grand Master that a member of one of our most flourishing lodges, consisting of Christians and Jews, had publicly and seriously avowed that no Jew should be admitted within the lodge; thereby causing great detriment to it, and exciting one class of its members against the other; each threatening to exclude by their ballots every candidate of the opposite religious persuasion; I held such conduct to be so grossly unmasonic, that it should not be overlooked; that no one had a right to set up his narrow opinions against one of the fundamental principles of Masonry. All it requires on this subject from a candidate for initiation into its mysteries, is that he have a sincere belief and trust in God. Beyond this, it is not lawful for any Mason, or body of Masons, to impose any religious test upon a candidate for admission. If he have the necessary moral and physical qualifications, as prescribed in our Book of Constitutions, the doors of our lodges should be as wide open to a Jew as to a Christian. Moreover, a lodge is not compelled to submit to its destruction, in deference to the willfulness or prejudice of any one of its members. Whilst the secrecy of the ballot is not to be interfered with, and no inquiry is permitted as to how a member has voted, even though such vote be injurious to the welfare of the lodge; it is wholly different when one seriously avows his purpose to use the ballot in order to violate one of the great principles on which our institution is founded. Such an avowal, deliberately made, proves the offender to be wanting in that charity which a Mason must have and practice. I therefore instructed the District Deputy Grand Master to warn the offending brother that unless he wholly abandoned this erroneous principle, and would heartily conform his conduct to what Masonry requires, he would be subjected to a trial, and required, unless he did so abandon it, that the District Deputy Grand Master should see that charges, with proper specifications, were preferred. And as other members had threatened retaliation, (which though natural,

was very unmasonic,) I instructed him to administer a sharp rebuke to them.

Provision was made, looking to the erection of a monument over the grave of the late Grand Secretary, John Dove, an excellent likeness of whom embellishes the proceedings.

A report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of thirty-five Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included—was presented by Bro. W. F. Drinkard, his first, but proves him entitled to full membership in the M. A. S.

Under the head of Minnesota, he says :

Bro. Pierson holds with Virginia Masons that to claim perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates is not sound Masonry. He holds that a Grand Lodge, in reversing the sentence of a subordinate lodge, suspending or expelling a brother, thereby restores him to membership. The constitutions of Masonry teach us that "no power" can force a member upon a lodge against its will; and this is statute law in Virginia. The Grand Lodge can give a brother by its action the rights and benefits of Masonry throughout its jurisdiction, and we may say, throughout the world, but cannot force any particular lodge to take him into its family, as a governor may pardon a criminal condemned by a jury, but cannot compel the community to accept his opinion of the offender, nor force such criminal back into the family circle from which he had been excluded.

Our doctrine exactly. A Grand Lodge has not the power to "force a member upon a lodge against its will," *provided*, that he had been *legally*, or *equitably* excluded, hence, restoration—pardon—by the Grand Lodge does not carry with it membership in the lodge from which he had been excluded. But reversal of the action of a subordinate lodge, is a declaration by the Grand Lodge that no offense had been committed, that the party could not be excluded from the lodge for reasons alleged, the whole action was void and of no account, the brother was not affected by the action of the lodge, and his membership remained as before charges were preferred.

Restoration is the extension of pardon, mercy, charity, to the wrong-doer.

Reversal is an act of justice to one wrongfully accused.

M. W. Beverly R. Wellford, Jr., was elected Grand Master—another reporter elevated—and

R. W. William B. Isaacs, re-elected Grand Secretary.



Bro. William F. Drinkard, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, Richmond, the Postoffice address of each.

### WISCONSIN, 1878.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin was held at Milwaukee, June 11th, 12th and 13th, 1878.

M.: W.: Jedd P. C. Cottrell, G.: M.:, presiding.

One hundred and seventy-six lodges represented.

Two hundred and eight on the roll.

Two under dispensation, one of which was issued during the year.

The Grand Master recommends the abolishment of affiliation fees. He recommends that measures be taken looking to the erection of a Masonic Temple.

The idea is a good one, *provided* "you can pay as you go." The experience of all the States except Pennsylvania—which has none—is, that it is a losing business to have a cupola and a mortgage on a Masonic edifice.

Bro. Woodhull is a model Grand Secretary ; we quote from his report for the benefit of some of the secretaries in this jurisdiction :

While most of the reports are correctly made, there are too many exceptions, all of which show at a glance whether or not the secretary is keeping his books properly. When a report is received, from which the names of three to six members are omitted and no reason assigned for it—or upon the other hand, when from three to six are added to the list and no reason given for such addition, it is the most conclusive evidence that the secretary's books are not properly kept. It is too often the case that these officers guess at what they should know without any question whatever. In some instances I am sorry to say the secretaries have attempted to make a balance by adding to or taking from the number of members reported the previous years, unless evidence is produced showing a conclusive reason for it. For instance, if they state that one or more member's names were omitted in a preceding report, the names of such members should be given, otherwise their statement is of no value whatever.

The following was adopted :

*Resolved*, That it be, and is hereby made a standing regulation of this Grand Lodge, that all representatives shall wear, during the communication of this Grand Lodge, the appropriate jewels of their office, and proxies must likewise wear the jewels of the officer they represent.

The *constitution* of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota contains such a provision, but,—

Bro. Woodhull presented a report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota included.

It would be superfluous to say that the report is a very superior one, because the brethren in this jurisdiction are so well acquainted with the brother's abilities.

Under the head of Minnesota, referring to the Lodge of Sorrow, held at the last annual communication, he says :

A very proper thing to do. We are usually too ready to forget our faithful brethren. The cold clods of earth falling upon their coffins are too often the period of our memory of their true and noble lives. It is not all of this life to live, nor all to die. There is a home beyond this fleeting life, a peaceful home, a home of love, a home of sweet repose. Can we look back from our celestial residence upon the things of this world, read the hearts of our companions, and know they love us still? Can we know that our self-sacrificing labors are appreciated, that the widows and orphans we have fed from our hard-earned store are thankful in their remembrance of our deeds of love?

Brethren, it is not perhaps for us to know that such is true, but it is for us who are left to labor on to do justice to the memory of our departed brother, to record their names upon our hearts and love them evermore.

We have labored long and persistently to convince our Wisconsin brethren of the error of their ways, but without avail.

Bro. Woodhull says :

We are sorry that we are unable to convince our Ill. Bro. of Minnesota that "dropping from the roll" is all wrong, unmasonic and unworthy of us as Masons. As we have heretofore stated, we believe it to be a subterfuge, a mere excuse for the performance of duty, a latter-day humbug, invented for the express purpose of allowing our organization to dodge the only question at issue, viz. : justice to all. The whole question revolves around a very small circle, the diameter of which is duty to ourselves and justice to our brethren.

Well, Woodhull and—and—are, individually and collectively—"joined to his idols," and we have "spent our strength for naught."

M. : W. : Charles F. G. Collins, of Beloit, was elected Grand Master; and

R. : W. : John W. Woodhull, of Milwaukee, re-elected Grand

Secretary, and is also Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

### WASHINGTON TERRITORY, 1878.

The Twenty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of "Washington" was held at Olympia, June 5th and 6th, 1878.

M.: W.: Robert C. Hill, G.: M.:, presiding.

Twenty lodges represented.

Twenty-six on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The Grand Master presented a lengthy address, discussing the question of physical and moral qualifications very elaborately.

We quote one paragraph:

Disqualified by our customs, traditions and usages, the unvarying, unbending common law of the fraternity, from its earliest history, who can deny that it is as much an innovation to relax the rule in favor of the "imperfect man," as it would be to open the temple to women, to those of minor years, but mature in intellectual culture and power! Nor is it more proscriptive, to reject the unfortunate cripple, than the worthy of the better sex. Neither is there any sound reason why the exclusion of the one should be denounced as harshness or inconsistent with the progress of the age, while the other remains the unchallenged usage, uniformly recognized as proper and in accordance with landmarks.

Under the head of Library, the Grand Secretary says in his report:

Masonry has a literature worthy of our respect, worthy of our knowledge, and well deserving our fostering care. That man who vainly supposes that Masonry consists merely in fixed forms and ceremony has never been "prepared to be made a Mason." He must learn that it has an active living thought—a being within, undying as the soul, aggressive and progressive in the world of science and morals. Some knowledge of this inner life of Masonry is as essential to the truly good and educated Mason, as are light and heat to the fructification of the earth. Libraries are but a means to an end, the ready helps to education and culture. If we would have wise and intelligent Masons we must build up, cultivate and encourage the means to make them so. To patronize the literature of our order, the Masonic press, is a duty, and no less a necessity. The intelligent Mason of to-day is the "reading Mason, none others can be. But if any of us are not reading Masons, and are determined we shall not be, others will come after us who may be, and may have occasion to bless and honor our efforts in gathering up a few of "the fragments" before all were beyond our reach.

In which we most heartily concur.

The Grand Lodge, by resolution, provided that in future all sums received by the Grand Master for dispensations be set apart to the Library Fund.

The following was adopted, in accordance with an old English custom :

*Resolved*, That the subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction be and they are hereby required to furnish each candidate raised to the third degree of Masonry, a Master Masons diploma.

The following was adopted—brethren contemplating a visit to the jumping off place, both north and west, will govern themselves accordingly :

*Resolved*, That all persons claiming to be Master Masons hailing from any lodge not within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge and having no proper personal avouchment, applying for visitation to any of the lodges in this jurisdiction, or who may desire to obtain pecuniary or other assistance from any lodge, shall, before they be allowed to visit such lodge, or before such pecuniary or other assistance be granted to them, be required to produce and exhibit a properly attested diploma, certificate, or other satisfactory documentary evidence, if demanded by any member of the lodge, of their Masonic standing at the time of making such visit or applying for such relief.

Bro. Thomas M. Reed presented a report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-nine Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1877 and 1878 included.

Under the head of Minnesota, 1877, he says :

The vote of Minnesota should forever put a *quietus* on the “new day, new duty” heresy—that Masonry is so “progressive” its “landmarks” may be obliterated at every change of public opinion.

M. . W. . Elisha P. Ferry, was elected Grand Master; and  
R. . W. . Thomas M. Reed, re-elected Grand Secretary, each of Olympia.

#### WEST VIRGINIA, 1877.

The Thirteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia was held at Martinsburg, November 13th and 14th, 1877.

M. . W. . G. W. Atkinson, G. . M. ., presiding.

Seventy-one lodges represented.

Seventy-six on the roll.

Among the decisions reported, we note :

Can a lodge fine an officer or brother for non-attendance?

Answer—No.

\* \* \* \* \*

Decided, that the Master of a chartered lodge could not open and preside over his lodge before the lodge had been instituted, and the officers installed, unless the Master was the presiding officer of the lodge under dispensation.

\* \* \* \* \*

Decided, first, that a lodge at a subsequent meeting had the power to expunge from its records any part of the records of a previous meeting. Second, that the Master, while presiding, could not present a motion before the lodge.

\* \* \* \* \*

Decided, 1st. That business transactions between brothers should not be brought before a lodge, except cases where obligation or obligations had been knowingly and willfully violated. 2d. That a lodge must pay all expenses of trials incurred by its order, whether it sustains or loses its case.

In this jurisdiction, a dispensation is required to be returned at the succeeding annual communication, and the power of congregating as a lodge ceases until the brethren are organized under a charter or a new dispensation issued. The brethren to whom a charter is granted have no power or right to meet *as a lodge* until they are constituted by the authority of the Grand Master, and the charter formally presented to them.

As to the third, we do not subscribe to the doctrine that the records of a lodge can be legitimately mutilated. The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reported—which was adopted by the Grand Lodge—as follows :

A lodge has no power to change its records after the same have been approved and signed, and a question once passed upon by the lodge can only be reconsidered at the meeting at which the same was acted upon and not at any subsequent meeting. Balloting can never be reconsidered, but the M. . W. . Grand Master can grant a dispensation to spread a new ballot.

The Grand Lodge authorized the Grand Secretary to re-print

three hundred copies of the proceedings from the organization in 1865 to 1877, inclusive.

M.·. W.·. George Baird, was elected Grand Master ; and

R.·. W.·. O. S. Long, re-elected Grand Secretary, each of Wheeling.

### WYOMING, 1877.

The Third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Wyoming was held at Evanston, October 9th and 10th, 1877.

M.·. W.·. Frederic E. Addoms, G.·. M.·., presiding.

Four lodges in the jurisdiction, representatives from each in attendance.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

Total number of M.·. M.·. reported in the jurisdiction, 300.

Total dues and fees received during the year, \$445.

The Grand Lodge made provision for the beginning of a Masonic Library, making arrangements for the preservation and safe-keeping of the proceedings of other Grand Bodies, a good move, in a very few years hence such books will be out of print and valuable.

Bro. William G. Town presented a report on Foreign Correspondence, comprising a review of the proceedings of forty-four Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

Printer says—space is filled.

M.·. W.·. Orlando North, was elected Grand Master ; and

R.·. W.·. William G. Town, re-elected Grand Secretary, both of Evanston.

Fraternally submitted,

A. T. C. PIERSON,

Chairman.

ST. PAUL, Jan. 9th, 1879.

## APPENDIX B.

## DIRECTORY OF GRAND LODGES.

COMPILED FROM THE LATEST DATA.

GRAND LODGE OF	GRAND MASTERS.		GRAND SECRETARIES.	
	NAME.	RESIDENCE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama .....	H. C. Armstrong ..	Suspension ..	Daniel Sayre .....	Montgomery.
Arkansas .....	John F. Hill .....	Clarksville .....	Luke E. Barber .....	Little Rock.
British Columbia ..	Frederick Williams ..	Esquimalt .....	Eli Harrison .....	Victoria.
Connecticut .....	Dwight Phelps .....	West Winsted.	Joseph K. Wheeler ..	Hartford.
California .....	John Mills Browne ..	Vallejo .....	Alex. G. Abell .....	San Francisco.
Colorado .....	R. W. Woodbury ..	Denver .....	Edw. C. Parmelee ..	Georgetown.
Canada .....	W. H. Weller .....	Cobourg .....	J. J. Mason .....	Hamilton, Ont.
Delaware .....	John Taylor .....	Wilmington ..	William S. Hayes ..	Wilmington.
Dist. of Columbia ..	H. A. Whitney .....	Washington ..	W. R. Singleton ..	Washington.
Florida .....	Wm. A. McLean ..	Jacksonville ..	DeWitt C. Dawkins ..	Jacksonville.
Georgia .....	James M. Mobley ..	Hamilton .....	J. E. Blackshear ..	Macon.
Indiana .....	Robert VanValzah ..	Terre Haute ..	William H. Smythe ..	Indianapolis.
Illinois .....	Theo. T. Gurney .....	Chicago .....	John F. Burrill .....	Springfield.
Iowa .....	Jeremiah W. Wilson ..	Newton .....	Theo. S. Parvin .....	Iowa City.
Idaho .....	E. E. Stevenson .....	Pioneerville ..	Charles Himrod .....	Boise City.
Indian Territory ..	J. S. Murrow .....	Atoka .....	W. A. McBride .....	Atoka.
Kentucky .....	Thomas S. Pettit ..	Owensboro ..	Hiram Bassett .....	Millersburg.
Kansas .....	Edwin D. Hillyer ..	Valley Falls ..	John H. Brown .....	Wyandotte.
Louisiana .....	Samuel J. Powell ..	St. Francisville ..	James C. Batchelor ..	New Orleans.
Maine .....	Edw. P. Burnham ..	Saco .....	Ira Berry .....	Portland.
Massachusetts .....	Charles A. Welch ..	Waltham .....	Tracy P. Cheever ..	Chelsea.
Maryland .....	J. H. Latrobe .....	Baltimore .....	Jacob Medairy .....	Baltimore.
Michigan .....	John W. Finch .....	Adrian .....	William P. Innes ..	Grand Rapids.
Missouri .....	Noah M. Given .....	Harrisonville ..	John D. Vincil .....	St. Louis.
Mississippi .....	Charles P. Murphy ..	Durant .....	J. L. Power .....	Jackson.
Montana .....	John Steadman .....	Helena .....	Cornelius Hedges ..	Helena.
Manitoba .....	Geo. F. Newcomb ..	Winnipeg .....	John H. Bell .....	Winnipeg.
New Hampshire ..	Solon A. Carter .....	Keene .....	George P. Cleaves ..	Concord.
New Jersey .....	Marshall B. Smith ..	Passaic .....	Joseph H. Hough ..	Trenton.
New York .....	Edmund L. Judson ..	Albany .....	James M. Austin ..	New York.
North Carolina .....	William R. Cox .....	Raleigh .....	Daniel W. Bain .....	Raleigh.
Nebraska .....	Edw. K. Valentine ..	West Point .....	William R. Bowen ..	Omaha.
Nevada .....	Henry L. Fish .....	Reno .....	John D. Hammond ..	Carson.
New Mexico .....	St. John .....	St. John .....	David J. Miller .....	Santa Fe.
New Brunswick .....	William F. Marshall ..	St. John .....	William F. Bunting ..	St. Johns.
Nova Scotia .....	J. Wimburn Laurie ..	Halifax .....	Benjamin Curren ..	Halifax.
Ohio .....	John D. Caldwell ..	Halifax .....	John D. Caldwell ..	Cincinnati.
Oregon .....	Robert Clow .....	Dallas .....	Robert P. Earhart ..	Portland.
Pennsylvania .....	Michael Nisbet .....	Philadelphia ..	John Thompson .....	Philadelphia.
Prince Ed. Island ..	John Yeo .....	Port Hill .....	B. Wilson Higgs .....	Charlottetown.
Quebec .....	Melbourne M. Tait ..	Montreal .....	J. H. Isaacson .....	Montreal.
Rhode Island .....	Charles R. Cutter ..	Warrenoga .....	Edwin Baker .....	Providence.
South Carolina .....	Beaufort W. Ball ..	Laurens C. H. ..	Charles Inglesby ..	Charleston.
Tennessee .....	George C. Conner ..	Chattanooga ..	John Frizzel .....	Nashville.
Texas .....	John B. Jones .....	Corsicana .....	Geo. H. Bringham ..	Houston.
Utah .....	Thomas E. Clohecy ..	Salt Lake City.	Christopher Diehl ..	Salt Lake City.
Vermont .....	Henry R. Smith .....	Rutland .....	Henry Clark .....	Rutland.
Virginia .....	Richard Parker .....	Winchester ..	Wm. B. Isaacs .....	Richmond.
Wisconsin .....	Chas. F. B. Collins ..	Beloit .....	John W. Woodhull ..	Milwaukee.
Washington Ter .....	Elisha P. Ferry .....	Olympia .....	Thomas M. Reed .....	Olympia.
West Virginia .....	George Baird .....	Wheeling .....	Odell S. Long .....	Wheeling.
Wyoming Ter .....	James H. Hayford ..	Laramie City ..	William G. Town ..	Evanston.



## APPENDIX C.—DIRECTORY OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No.	NAME.	LOCATION.	W. MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.	SECRETARY.
1....	St. Johns.....	Stillwater.....	John A. Johnson.....	W. M. F. Gorrie.....	A. King Doc.....	Frank Chase.....
2....	Catara.....	Minneapolis East.....	James S. Lane.....	W. E. Johnson.....	B. F. Nelson.....	Solon Armstrong.....
3....	St. Paul.....	Minneapolis East.....	Smith D. Downs.....	William R. Johnson.....	Henry Brand.....	Henry W. Topping.....
4....	Hennepin.....	Minneapolis West.....	C. H. Benton.....	W. A. Miller.....	Cyrus Rothschild.....	Wm. Gunderson.....
5....	Ancient Landmark.....	St. Paul.....	Orville G. Miller.....	Andrew P. Swanson.....	E. H. Milham.....	Alonso J. Burningham.....
6....	Dakota.....	Hastings.....	C. W. Williams.....	Irving Todd.....	Edwin S. Fitch.....	C. O. Ball.....
7....	Red Wing.....	Faribault.....	Lucius A. Hancock.....	Swante J. Willard.....	William H. Putnam.....	George P. Sjoblom.....
8....	Faribault.....	Faribault.....	C. N. Daniels.....	George M. Andrews.....	B. C. Case.....	George P. Henkle.....
9....	Mankato.....	Mankato.....	Amrose LaDue.....	Ira J. Witherell.....	Zeno B. Page.....	John A. Lewis.....
10....	Mankato.....	Mankato.....	Charles A. Chapman.....	H. N. Smith.....	Daniel A. Dickerson.....	Amos D. Seward.....
11....	Wabasha.....	Monticello.....	I. J. Penneck.....	John O. Holler.....	A. F. Barker.....	H. Lindem.....
12....	Monticello.....	Hokah.....	Herman H. Covert.....	H. Ealy.....	R. E. Stearns.....	James N. Stacy.....
13....	Hokah.....	Winona.....	I. B. Cummings.....	W. H. Bennett.....	L. Wyloe.....	Wm. L. Slossag.....
14....	Winona.....	Minneapolis West.....	John H. Noble.....	Theodore M. Slosson.....	C. H. Goodwin.....	James M. Williams.....
15....	Caladonia.....	Rochester.....	George L. Gates.....	A. F. Booth.....	Edward E. Smith.....	James M. Williams.....
16....	Pleasant Grove.....	St. Cloud.....	W. G. Bartley.....	R. L. Vandusen.....	Eugene W. Trask.....	John Aiken.....
17....	St. Cloud.....	Wilton.....	O. H. Page.....	George Z. Logan.....	A. B. Beach.....	H. T. Hanson.....
18....	Wilton.....	Winnipeg City.....	George H. Davis.....	Daniel Freeman.....	Alva A. Lord.....	R. D. Hatheway.....
19....	Winnipeg City.....	Clearwater.....	William H. Gillis.....	J. A. Canfield.....	Theodore D. Parsons.....	Charles W. Kingsbury.....
20....	Clearwater.....	Clearwater.....	James F. Reppy.....	Boor K. Stacy.....	John Waggoner.....	H. C. Woodbury.....
21....	Morning Star.....	Clearwater.....	Benjamin F. Goodwin.....	Jefferson Butrick.....	Wm. C. Pratt.....	Nathan W. Sargent.....
22....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	James Colgrove.....	George P. Fish.....	Joseph Whittemore.....	Thos. Tollington.....
23....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	C. E. Jackson.....	W. R. Anderson.....	G. O. Foster.....	H. D. Gurley.....
24....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	Oscar I. Cutter.....	Ard C. Hilton.....	S. W. Hatch.....	George Cotten.....
25....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	Edna W. Snyder.....	Robert H. McClelland.....	Rufus P. Wells.....	Frederick Scott.....
26....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	George A. Blair.....	R. C. Philbrick.....	E. P. Case.....	B. F. Morgan.....
27....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	J. M. Burlingame.....	C. H. Randall.....	Geo. D. Holden.....	H. H. Luers.....
28....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	Norman Daniels.....	Edward McInnis.....	William C. Stranahan.....	John A. Wilson.....
29....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	J. E. Fitch.....	Daniel W. Truax.....	Henry Van Inwegen.....	Peter F. Countriman.....
30....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	Giles A. Baker.....	Frank M. Jewett.....	Geo. W. Hard.....	Lawrence M. Conkey.....
31....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	I. G. Thompson.....	I. Stacky.....	Charles Parham.....	A. H. Kellogg.....
32....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	Melvin G. Peters.....	H. C. Shaidon.....	Franklin W. Benjamin.....	Miller M. Sevens.....
33....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	Angus Ingmundson.....	Willie T. Wilkins.....	Charles L. West.....	Charles H. Davidson.....
34....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	M. P. Shoup.....	John West.....	Oliver Young.....	Emory L. Townsland.....
35....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	Ira D. Wrentham.....	David B. Seefeldt.....	James T. Witherson.....	James H. Farwell.....
36....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	A. P. Fitch.....	D. Tupper.....	James C. Edson.....	F. A. Hunt.....
37....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	I. C. Slade.....	August Sander.....	C. Haas.....	O. W. Gravet.....
38....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	Horace D. Carter.....	George W. Gardner.....	Joseph Newton.....	Jarvis W. Sencerbox.....
39....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....	E. P. Rutin.....	W. H. Tomlinson.....	L. Quackenbush.....	George W. Taylor.....
40....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....				
41....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....				
42....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....				
43....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....				
44....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....				
45....	Anoka.....	Clearwater.....				



46.	Evergreen.	Suratoga.	S. L. Draper.	H. H. Haydon.	W. E. Walker.	W. B. Hesselgrave.
47.	Concord.	Cleveland.	William H. Hall.	Frank L. Ransom.	Henry Zimmerman.	John W. Chambers.
48.	Social.	Norfolk.	F. A. Noble.	E. M. Hitchcock.	Mate Martin.	B. F. Henry.
49.	Rising Sun.	St. Charles.	George H. Johnson.	Robert Mares.	Henry Talbot.	Walter G. Ackerman.
50.	Watertown.	St. Charles.	Ernest Hamlin.	Azariah J. Tarvin.	Coelo Merriman.	Charles G. Halgrin.
51.	Acacia.	Watertown.	Arthur H. Steen.	Alfred L. Holman.	Robert Wilkins.	Peter Thompson.
52.	Cannon River.	Cottage Grove.	Charles Switzer.	George Mohl.	John M. Rohet.	John Eddy.
53.	St. Peter.	Morrison.	George F. Merritt.	William H. Pearce.	William McQuat.	Thos. Montgomery.
54.	Nicollet.	St. Peter.	George W. Seymour.	Levi W. Folsom.	A. J. Murdoch.	William S. Dedon.
55.	Zion.	St. Peter.	William Stratford.	L. P. Case.	George Andrews.	F. W. Shimer.
56.	Meridian.	Chalfield.	Norman R. Booth.	Samuel Tesky.	Henry Cobb.	George B. Kingsley.
57.	Blue Earth City.	Blue Earth City.	Nathan R. Booth.	Norman Brass.	John N. Ives.	Oscar F. Rexford.
58.	Spring Valley.	Spring Valley.	Charles H. Stinchfield.	John T. Higgins.	David A. Adams.	Robert J. Wille.
59.	Temple.	Th. chinson.	Hiram P. Gallup.	Henry S. Doty.	Polterman Lamb.	E. M. Weston.
60.	Star in the West.	Sunk Centre.	H. E. Doty.	C. S. Andrews.	F. J. Haydon.	G. A. Ruckholdt.
61.	Ashlar.	Eyota.	J. R. Ames.	George L. Lucas.	D. N. McCarter.	William Lawton.
62.	Star.	Rockford.	Augustus Smith.	C. E. Daniels.	John P. Waste.	R. M. Ward.
63.	Illustrations.	Plainview.	F. S. Livermore.	J. W. Tanner.	E. W. Bird.	L. A. Huntoon.
64.	Chain Lake.	Plainmont.	B. H. Sanderson.	John C. Higgins.	David Hanna.	George A. Bradford.
65.	Golden Rule.	Lakeland.	William H. Witham.	William R. Marvin.	T. C. Peart.	Edward Z. Needham.
66.	Madeline.	Madeline.	James M. D. Craft.	Levi P. Dodge.	Alfred L. Needham.	B. N. Ollhouse.
67.	Corinthian.	Washington.	B. F. Tillotson.	John McLeod.	George Drake.	John W. Darby.
68.	Mystic Star.	Rushford.	Albert E. Bugbie.	Romeo I. Tuttle.	James C. Haines.	P. D. Vaughan.
69.	Paynesville.	Paynesville.	J. W. George.	H. M. McIntyre.	John Thompson.	J. M. Riley.
70.	Lausling.	Lausling.	J. B. LeBlond.	Thos. McMichael.	J. P. Schaller.	M. E. Frisbee.
71.	Brownsville.	Brownsville.	[No Returns.]	John Temperary.	W. D. Harden.	Leslie W. Close.
72.	Minneliska.	Minneliska.	Charles A. Roy.	Lucius S. Turry.	Frank C. Nickerson.	G. B. Buckman.
73.	Eureka.	LeRoy.	James G. Thompson.	F. A. Newell.	James A. Claghorn.	Geo. A. LaVague.
74.	Joppa.	Garden City.	C. A. Wright.	John H. Upham.	Milton I. Forbes.	C. Dider.
75.	Tuscan.	Nasca.	[No Returns.]	J. P. Kirby.	H. Rahling.	Wm. E. Childist.
76.	Mystic Circle.	Duluth.	James E. Olds.	Charles Schultz.	William W. Roberts.	Thomas R. Briggs.
77.	Palestine.	Duluth.	S. W. Bennett.	Wallace Goodell.	William McColman.	Abner Renington.
78.	Henderson.	Alexandria.	Francis E. Van Hoesen.	William R. Huntley.	Alanson Landers.	James E. Rosworth.
79.	Constellation.	Howard Lake.	C. W. Rickerson.	Moses Kinney.	James Crosby.	E. S. Wooldridge.
80.	Howard.	Kasson.	Hiram Hatch.	E. D. Buck.	S. W. Reese.	I. W. Kingsberg.
81.	Hiram Abi.	Money Creek.	Gilbert M. Corry.	E. V. Dicker.	S. B. Mathews.	George W. Slade.
82.	Orient.	High Forest.	C. Converse.	Thomas S. Fellows.	William A. Billings.	Hamlet Stevens.
83.	High Forest.	High Forest.	E. S. Hyde.	Jerome B. Hatch.	Henry Ames.	M. A. Strong.
84.	Triumphant.	Mazepa.	Hezekiah A. Park.	C. B. Tuttle.	E. W. Davis.	F. A. Chandler.
85.	Doric.	Wells.	James H. Morris.	Robert A. Wilson.	Thomas H. King.	Charles H. Chadbourne.
86.	Golden Fleece.	Litchfield.	Alexander Fiddes.	Charles Morehouse.	Nelson E. Jesurun.	Samuel P. Carpenter.
87.	Good Faith.	Jackson.	S. J. F. Rater.	Maynard Miller.	Jespyr E. Cheney.	M. C. Burnside.
88.	Antiquity.	Redwood Falls.	Newell A. Ross.	Thomas Allison.	Charles W. Smith.	W. F. Chadbourne.
89.	Fraternal.	Prediction.	Gideon S. Reeder.	William B. Mabie.	Loretta Follard.	
90.	Unity.	Sauk Rapids.	James M. Thompson.			
91.	Keystone.	Sleepy Eye Lake.	William B. Mabie.			
92.	Sherburne.	Elk River.				

## APPENDIX C.—DIRECTORY OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.—CONTINUED.

NO.	NAME.	LOCATION.	W. MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.	SECRETARY.
96.	Libanon.....	St. James.....	Jos S. Aldritt.....	Thomas Birkhimer.....	John Sammons.....	John W. Dreger.
97.	Prudence.....	Windom.....	C. H. Smith.....	Joseph McMurtrey.....	O. rin Nason.....	John Hutton.
98.	Charly.....	New Uin.....	Albert Braden.....	Albert Blanchard.....	William Hummel.....	Ole M. Olson.
99.	Corner Stone.....	Fergus Falls.....	Alonzo Braden.....	James Compton.....	William H. Smith.....	John C. Sawbridge.
100.	Aurora.....	Brainerd.....	Henry Dresser.....	N. McFadden.....	F. B. Thompson.....	C. E. Williams.
101.	Fraternity.....	Worthington.....	Albert C. Robinson.....	Leonidas E. Kimball.....	Burton N. Carrier.....	S. Edwin Chandler.
102.	Lebanon.....	Lanesboro.....	A. F. Nash.....	J. C. Nelson.....	W. F. Nelson.....	V. C. Raug.
103.	Bethel.....	Lake Crystal.....	Charles E. Davis.....	Andrew J. Murphy.....	William P. Marston.....	E. Francher.
104.	Sharon.....	Sharon.....	B. F. Jenness.....	Samuel G. Roberts.....	Julius C. Goldsmith.....	Henry C. Delano.
105.	Shilo.....	Fargo, D. T.....	Edward Porrett.....	Frank R. Runkel.....	John E. Haggart.....	E. B. Chambers.
106.	Mt. Tabor.....	Detroit.....	Frank A. Johnson.....	John Andrews.....	Edwin S. Thompson.....	Charles W. Dix.
107.	Adoniram.....	Dover Center.....	L. W. Needham.....	R. K. Evans.....	George Rank.....	L. Coppersmith.
108.	Relief.....	Dodge Center.....	Terry E. Gettman.....	Michael R. Dresbach.....	Albert S. Parmlee.....	Elmer R. Patrick.
109.	Sunset.....	Montevideo.....	H. W. Heagy.....	A. J. Mullen.....	W. B. Kitchel.....	Charles R. Black.
110.	Pickwick.....	Carver.....	James L. Finch.....	Daniel Steudman.....	E. B. Huffman.....	D. C. Martin.
111.	Curver.....	Minneapolis West.....	Henry R. Denny.....	Charles Johnson.....	F. W. Henning.....	John S. Nelson.
112.	Excelsior.....	Excelsior.....	O. C. Meaker.....	Wm. E. Martin.....	Robert O. Crawford.....	R. D. Butten.
113.	Ben Franklin.....	Laverne.....	Elbridge D. Hadley.....	James L. Helm.....	M. M. Maynard.....	C. E. Prince.
114.	Elgin.....	Brownsdale.....	William Seales.....	S. Ives.....	William Clone.....	Wm. H. Halbert.
115.	Lafayette.....	Newport.....	J. B. Graves.....	McConnell Fitch.....	A. McGowan.....	B. H. Gauld.
116.	Granite.....	Marshall.....	H. A. Durand.....	Silas W. Laythe.....	Neil T. Hossie.....	W. H. Lawrence.
117.	Delta.....	Bismarck.....	G. M. Durst.....	Geo. P. Flannery.....	Wm. Fowler.....	Henry J. Simpson.
118.	Grand Meadow.....	Kellogg.....	Friend E. Miner.....	Frank R. Warner.....	Charles H. Whitney.....	C. A. Durand.
119.	Prairie.....	Blooming Prairie.....	J. E. Gage.....	M. K. Wolfe.....	L. N. Griffin.....	W. M. Coleman.
120.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Joseph P. Johnson.....	Thomas S. Morton.....	Alexander Requa.....	Elmer N. Corey.
121.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Andrew J. Smith.....	S. C. L. Moore.....	William Barton.....	Ole Jorgens.
122.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Frank J. Burnham.....	John Williams.....	Charles D. Giddings.....	C. H. Coleman.
123.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Frank S. Swart.....	W. E. Trux.....	F. L. Hagan.....	Lewis Ellington.
124.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	James H. Cornell.....	John L. Kellogg.....	Oscar A. Kelly.....	George F. Johnson.
125.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	John Q. A. Braden.....	James E. Brown.....	Chas. W. Linwood.....	Eugene A. Smith.
126.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	O. Whitman.....	Ziba B. Clarke.....	Minor Ball.....	Sam. Patridge.
127.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Frank M. Howard.....	F. M. Wilson.....	William L. McQueen.....	William J. Lewis.
128.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	George M. Howard.....	Ira Wheeler.....	William H. Topping.....	C. A. Williams.
129.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Henry M. Hutchins.....	Julius Adams.....	Geo. A. Beaton.....	J. M. Swanstrom.
130.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Edna P. Bannum.....	George H. Munro.....	John Beach.....	Oscar B. Dearborn.
131.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Orlando H. Bushnell.....	S. W. Barnett.....	C. O. Woodruff.....	Charles Bachmann.
132.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Orlando H. Bushnell.....	S. W. Barnett.....	William J. Munro.....	E. A. Hopkins.
133.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Orlando H. Bushnell.....	S. W. Barnett.....	Fred. F. Goff.....	James Sturges.
134.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Orlando H. Bushnell.....	S. W. Barnett.....	Geo. W. McMurt.	James Sturges.
135.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Orlando H. Bushnell.....	S. W. Barnett.....	Geo. W. McMurt.	James Sturges.
136.	Wasserville.....	Osseo.....	Orlando H. Bushnell.....	S. W. Barnett.....	Geo. W. McMurt.	James Sturges.

## APPENDIX D.—GRAND OFFICERS.

ELECTIVE GRAND OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MINNESOTA, FROM ITS ORGANIZATION IN 1853,  
TO THE PRESENT TIME.

YEAR.	GRAND MASTER.	DEPUTY G. M.:	SENIOR G. W.:	JUNIOR G. W.:	G. S. TREASURER.	G. S. SECRETARY.
1853	A. E. Ames†	A. Goodrich	D. F. Brawley	A. Van Vorhes	E. Case†	I. G. Lennon
1854	A. E. Ames†	D. F. Brawley	A. Van Vorhes	A. T. C. Pierson	E. Case†	H. Reynolds
1855	M. Sherburne†	A. T. C. Pierson	C. T. Stearns	A. Van Vorhes	E. Case†	H. Reynolds
1856	A. T. C. Pierson	H. N. Setzer	Thomas Lombard	E. A. Hodson†	E. Case†	Geo. W. Prescott
1857	A. T. C. Pierson	Wm. H. Mower†	E. A. Hodson†	William Lee	E. Case†	Geo. W. Prescott
Jan.—1858	A. T. C. Pierson	D. B. Loomis	Frank Mantor	A. C. Smith	E. Case†	Geo. W. Prescott
Oct.—1858	A. T. C. Pierson	D. B. Loomis	Samuel E. Adams	J. C. Whipple†	E. Case†	Geo. W. Prescott
1859	A. T. C. Pierson	D. B. Loomis	Samuel E. Adams	J. C. Whipple†	E. Case†	Geo. W. Prescott
1860	A. T. C. Pierson	D. B. Loomis	J. C. Whipple†	J. C. Whipple†	E. Case†	Geo. W. Prescott
1861	A. T. C. Pierson	J. E. Thompson	L. E. Thompson	George Bradley	E. Case†	Geo. W. Prescott
*1863	A. T. C. Pierson	L. E. Thompson	C. H. Lindsley	W. T. Rigby	E. Case†	Geo. W. Prescott
1864	Geo. W. Prescott	P. P. Hubbell	E. C. Wells	A. B. Curry	George L. Otis	A. T. C. Pierson
1865	Geo. W. Prescott	P. P. Hubbell	G. B. Cooley	A. J. Phelps†	George L. Otis	C. W. Carpenter
1866	Charles W. Nash	R. A. Jones	Robert Stewart†	S. R. Merrill	George L. Otis	Wm. S. Combs
1867	Charles W. Nash	R. A. Jones	S. R. Merrill	S. Y. Hyde	George L. Otis	Wm. S. Combs
Jan.—1869	Charles W. Nash	G. B. Cooley	S. R. Merrill	S. Y. Hyde	George L. Otis	Wm. S. Combs
1870	Charles W. Nash	G. B. Cooley	S. Y. Hyde	Fred. Joss	George L. Otis	Wm. S. Combs
1871	Charles W. Nash	G. B. Cooley	E. D. B. Porter†	J. W. Morford	George L. Otis	Wm. S. Combs
1872	G. B. Cooley	G. Griswold	J. N. Castle	E. P. Barnum	George L. Otis	Wm. S. Combs
1873	G. B. Cooley	J. N. Castle	Eggar Nash	I. B. Cummings	George L. Otis	E. D. B. Porter†
1874	G. Griswold	J. C. Braden†	Eggar Nash	I. B. Cummings	George A. Camp	E. D. B. Porter†
1875	G. Griswold	J. C. Braden†	H. R. Wells	H. R. Wells	George A. Camp	E. D. B. Porter†
1876	J. C. Braden†	E. W. Durant	L. Z. Rogers	A. J. Edgerton	George A. Camp	A. T. C. Pierson
1877	E. W. Durant	H. R. Wells	C. H. Benton	C. O. Ball	George A. Camp	A. T. C. Pierson
1878	Henry R. Wells	C. H. Benton	C. N. Daniels	C. N. Daniels	J. H. Thompson	A. T. C. Pierson
1879	Henry R. Wells	C. H. Benton	C. N. Daniels	George A. Camp	J. H. Thompson	A. T. C. Pierson

† Expelled.

† Deceased

\* No sessions of the Grand Lodge in 1862 or 1868.

## APPENDIX E.—ABSTRACT OF RETURNS.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	Reductions.				Additions.					Total Amount of Dues and Fees.	No. for next Report.
		Withdrawn.	Stricken from Roll.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Adjoined.	Restored.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.		
1	St. Johns.....	4			1	3		4	5	6	\$68 00	115
2	Cataract.....	2			3		1		5	1	104 50	203
3	St. Paul.....	7			1	6		4	1	2	73 00	139
4	Hennepin.....	3			1	11	3	5	3	3	102 00	214
5	Ancient Landmark.....	4			7	4		2	7	3	173 00	316
6	Dakota.....	4			1			2	2	3	41 50	78
7	Red Wing.....	21	1		1	6	1	4	6	4	60 00	122
8	Faribault.....	2			1	6	1	3	3	3	68 50	130
9	Mantorville.....				1	1				1	21 00	44
10	Mankato.....	2	7		1	3		2	3	3	67 00	123
11	Wapahaska.....	1			1	1		3	1	1	36 50	63
12	Monticello.....	1			1	3	1				25 50	47
13	Hokah.....		11		3	3		2	7	6	38 50	52
14	Winona.....	4			2	1		1	1	7	81 00	160
15	Minneapolis.....	11	13		2	3	7	8	5	5	87 50	158
16	Caledonia.....	1									17 50	37
17	Rochester.....	2				4		1	2	2	77 00	150
18	Pleasant Grove.....	1			1			5	5	5	45 00	67
19	North Star.....	2				1			2	1	36 50	71
20	Wilton.....	1			1			1	1	1	15 50	26
21	Western Star.....				1			2	2	2	41 50	77
22	Blue Earth Valley.....				1	1		1	1	2	31 50	57
23	Clear Water.....	2	1					7	7	7	39 00	43
24	Morning Star.....	2						2	2	2	15 00	20
25	Anoka.....	1			1	2		5	4	4	52 50	85
26	King Hiram.....	3	4			1	1	14	16	15	54 50	36
27	Sakata.....	1			1	1					17 50	38
28	Star in the East.....	3			1			5	5	5	66 00	114
29	Oriental.....	1	1			3			5	6	46 00	67
30	Mount Moriah.....	2			1	2	1	1			33 00	67
31	Preston.....	4				3		7	6	5	64 00	102
32	Mystic Tie.....	6	4		2			2	1	1	21 00	35
33	Washington.....	3	5					2	2	1	15 00	25
34	Fidelity.....	2	25			1		7	6	9	63 00	92
35	Carnelian.....	5	9			1		8	8	7	71 50	105
36	Herman.....			1					1	1	38 50	67
37	Hope.....	3						4	2	2	28 00	42
38	Harmony.....	5									21 50	43
39	King Solomon.....	2	5			2		4	5	5	46 00	71
40	Union.....	4	2			1		4	4	3	45 00	74
41	Evergreen.....	1						3	1	2	24 00	35
42	Concord.....				1						13 50	29
43	Social.....	1	2			6		1	1	3	40 50	80
44	Rising Sun.....	5	1			1		2	4	4	52 50	90
45	Watertown.....	6	11	1				1	1	1	25 50	49
46	Acacia.....	4	6		2		1	5	6	5	28 00	32
47	Cannon River.....		5			2		5	6	6	40 00	56
48	Nicollet.....		10					3	2	1	46 00	82
49	Zion.....							5	5	4	29 00	35
50	Meriden.....	3	3		3			3	1	1	61 50	114
51	Blue Earth City.....							2	1	1	34 00	63
52	Spring Valley.....	3		1		6		2	5	6	47 50	81
53	Temple.....	1				1		4	2	2	30 00	49
54	Star in the West.....	2	8		2			1	1	1	36 50	72
55	Ashlar.....	1				2	1	1	1	1	23 50	47
56	Star.....				1	1		1	1	1	24 00	47
57	Illustrious.....	1						3	3	3	51 00	87
58	Chain Lake.....	1									21 00	42
59	Golden Rule.....			1		1	1	1	1	1	15 00	27
60	Madelia.....	1				1		3	3	3	21 00	30
61	Corinthian.....				1	1					20 00	43
62	Mystic Star.....	1									21 50	45
63	Paynesville.....								1	1	20 00	37

## ABSTRACT OF RETURNS.—CONTINUED.

Number of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	Reductions.				Additions.					Total Amount of Dues and Fees.	No. for next Report.
		Withdrawn.	Stricken from Roll.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Adjoined.	Restored.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.		
72	Lansing.....	1	3					4	4	5	\$19 00	19
73	Brownsville.....										5 00	10
74	Minneiska.....											
75	Eureka.....	3						1	2	2	26 50	45
76	Joppa.....	1				1		2	2	2	23 50	36
77	Tuscan.....	1				2		3	4	4	34 50	55
78	Mystic Circle.....											
79	Palestine.....	3	5		1	3		8	10	10	55 00	67
80	Henderson.....	1				1		1			15 50	33
81	Constellation.....	1					3			1	23 50	40
82	Howard.....					1		5	6	6	31 50	36
83	Hiram Abi.....	1	4			1		5	4	4	38 50	58
84	Orient.....			1				1	1	1	15 00	27
85	High Forest.....	1				1	1	8	8	8	32 50	32
86	Tyrian.....	3						2	2	2	36 00	60
87	Doric.....	2	9		1			8	8	8	42 50	45
89	Golden Fleece.....	1		1		2		8	8	6	65 00	94
90	Good Faith.....					2				1	9 00	17
91	Antiquity.....	1									17 50	37
92	Fraternal.....	1			1	2		2	4	5	23 50	30
93	Unity.....		10			1		2	2	1	16 50	25
94	Keystone.....				1						24 00	48
95	Sherburne.....		1			1		3	2	2	27 00	45
96	Libanus.....					3		2	1	1	32 50	41
97	Prudence.....					4					9 50	23
98	Charity.....							1	1	1	31 00	37
99	Corner Stone.....					2		4	4	2	32 50	51
100	Aurora.....	1	1					3	3	2	30 00	46
101	Fraternity.....					2		2	2	2	26 00	44
102	Lebanon.....	1						3	2	3	23 00	33
103	Bethel.....										0 50	13
104	Sharon.....	1									17 00	34
105	Shilo.....				1	4		3	3	2	26 50	44
106	Mount Tabor.....	2						4	4	3	26 50	36
107	Adoniram.....	2	3								9 50	21
108	Relief.....	1	7		1	2		7	7	7	40 00	50
109	Sunset.....		4			2		3	2	2	17 50	25
110	Pickwick.....	3	4			2	1	1			9 50	20
111	Carver.....					1					23 50	30
112	Khurum.....	3			1	16		6			5 50	96
113	Excelsior.....	2			1			4	3	4	21 50	25
114	Ben. Franklin.....	1						2	4	4	18 00	32
115	Elgin.....	3				1		5	4	4	36 00	51
116	LaFayette.....							2	1	1	17 00	22
117	Granite.....	1				1		4	1	1	13 50	19
118	Newport.....		5					1	1	1	9 00	13
119	Delta.....	1						4	3	3	22 00	27
120	Bismarck.....							2	2	1	18 00	27
121	Grand Meadow.....	3				4		4	4	4	21 50	24
122	Kellogg.....	1				1					11 50	24
123	Prairie.....	3						4	3	6	16 50	18
124	Janesville.....					2		5	4	6	25 00	28
125	Winslow Lewis.....	1						8	9	9	39 50	37
126	Moorhead.....	1				1		7	6	4	24 00	19
127	Centennial.....	1			1			2	2	2	11 50	15
128	Josephus.....							2	1	2	14 50	22
129	Swift.....	1						4	5	4	20 00	18
130	Arcturus.....				1			8	7	7	35 00	33
331	Alma.....					1		5	4	5	25 50	29
332	Humboldt.....							5	4	4	19 50	17
333	Golden Sheaf.....				2	4		4	9	9	29 50	28
334	Cokato.....							6	5	4	45 00	17
335	Walnut.....							4	3	3	10 00	11
336	Nelson.....							1	1	....	2 00	18
		304	192	4	3	54	185	24	379	373	370	.....

# BURIAL SERVICE,

AS COMPILED BY

R. W. C. N. DANIELS,

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER FOR THE 4TH DISTRICT, MINN.

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Brethren: Here we view a striking instance of the uncertainty of life and the vanity of all human pursuits. The last offices paid to the dead are only useful as lectures to the living; from them we are to derive instruction, and consider every solemnity of this kind as a summons to prepare for our approaching dissolution.

“Notwithstanding the various mementoes of mortality with which we daily meet—notwithstanding death has established his empire over all the works of nature—yet, through some unaccountable infatuation, we forget that we are born to die.” We go on from one design to another, add hope to hope, and lay out plans for the employment of many years, till we are suddenly alarmed with the approach of death, when we least expect him, and at an hour which we probably conclude to be the meridian of our existence. What, then, are all the externals of human dignity, the power of wealth, the dreams of ambition, the pride of intellect, or the charms of beauty, when Nature has paid her just debt? In the grave all fallacies are detected, all ranks are leveled, and all distinctions, but that of goodness, are done away.

My brethren, we are now assembled around the final resting place of these mortal remains, and are about closing the last solemn duties of respect we owe to our departed friend and brother. A few reflections, therefore, applicable to the solemnities of this occasion, and salutary and impressive to the living, may be, with great propriety, offered on this sacred spot,—a spot where departed friendship yet lingers, and steals in melancholy, yet pleasing reminiscence, into the heart.

The younger are crowding the next older off the stage of action, as though each were anxious to exhibit his part in the strange and ever-changing drama of human life. Not a solitary individual re-enters the world's theatre. All take their exit, and are known beneath the sun no more forever.

We are now at the last resting place of man, and here learn the only language of the tomb—the epitaph declaring *they once lived*. Lettered stones and monuments are more instructive than the once living thousands whose memories they preserve from oblivion.

All, except these are speechless in the chambers of eternal silence. No lingering spirits hover around their mouldering relics, whispering any intelligence of their present existence. The eternal country, for which they embarked, returns us no intelligence of their safe arrival. Speechless is the gentle breeze that fans their verdant covering.

The statesman, hero, philosopher, theologian, whose eloquence or arms have shaken empires,—who have united the language of earth and heaven, or plucked proud laurels from fields of war,—are resting in silence. Their hearts, that once beat high with hopes of life and glory, are unaffected with the interests of earth, and susceptible of nought but the feelings that appertain to another world.

Not only these are gone, but even the youth, whose cheeks are mantled with sunny smiles, and whose eye sparkles in all the brilliancy of health, must soon become an inanimate lump of clay.

Those lips, that now echo the sentiments of inexperience, must be silent, and the heart that now palpitates and rejoices at the sound of pleasure must be stilled in the cold and cheerless mansions of the dead.

Another generation will arise to occupy our places and stations in life.

The sun will rise and set, the earth revolve. Strangers will tread upon our sepulchers, without knowing that we ever existed.

A few surviving relatives may remember us and mourn, but these few will soon follow to the land of silence.

No one here will concern himself with our past joys or sorrows, while we shall be conversant with the amazing realities of another world.

Under these feelings and impressions, we are now about to commit the body of our departed brother to the silent grave. And, under a full and solemn conviction of the nothingness of all earthly and perishable objects, we here renewedly, as Masons, pledge to each other our fraternal love; and may we so improve this dispensation of Divine Providence, and so live, that when these feeble frames shall slumber beneath the cold clods of the valley, the needy and distressed, the widow and the orphan, may point with regret to our sleeping ashes, and exclaim, there lie the men whose compassions soothed my woes, whose consolations tranquilized my perturbed spirits, and whose bounty relieved my pressing necessity.

#### INVOCATIONS.

May we be true and faithful—live and die in love; for the memory of the just is blessed.

Response.—So mote it be.

The Lord bless us, and keep us—the Lord make his face to shine upon



us, and be gracious unto us,—the Lord lift up upon us the light of his countenance, and give us peace.

Response.—So mote it be.

All.—Glory be to God in the highest, on earth, peace, good will toward men.

#### PRAYER.

Thou, Oh God! knowest, &c.

[Deposit the remains.]

#### APRON.

The lambskin, or white apron, is the emblem of innocence, and the badge of a Mason. It is more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle; more honorable than the Star and Garter, when worthily worn.

This emblem I now deposit in the grave of our deceased brother. By it we are reminded of the universal dominion of death.

The arm of friendship cannot interpose to prevent his coming; the wealth of the world cannot purchase our release; nor will the innocence of youth, or the charms of beauty, propitiate his purpose. The mattock, the coffin, and the melancholy grave, admonish us of our mortality, and that sooner or later, these frail bodies must moulder in their parent dust.

#### EVERGREEN.

This evergreen, which once marked the temporary resting-place of the illustrious dead, is an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul. By this, we are reminded that we have an immortal part within us, that shall survive the grave, and which shall never, never, never die. By it we are admonished, that, though like our brother, whose remains lie before us, we shall soon be clothed in the habiliments of death, and deposited in the silent tomb, yet, through the merits of a divine and ascended Saviour, we may confidently hope that our souls will bloom in eternal spring.

[NOTE.—After depositing the evergreen, the *Grand Honors* will be given.]

Brethren: We have taken a solemn and impressive survey of human life in all its blended lights and shades, and learned that all on earth is change.

We have seen that as the lightning writes its firey path on the dark cloud and expires, so the races of men, walking amidst the surrounding shades of mortality, glitters a moment through the darksome gloom, then vanish from our sight forever.

We are born to die; yes, my brethren, we are all born to die. We follow our friends to the grave, and standing on the brink of a vast ocean, we



gaze with exquisite anxiety until the last dreadful struggle is o'er, and see them sink into the fathomless abyss; we feel our own feet slide from the precarious bank on which we stand, and but a few suns more, and we too, my brethren, will be overwhelmed mid deaths awful wave, there to rest in the stilly shades, where the worm shall cover us, and darkness, and silence shall reign around our melancholy abode.

But is this the end of man, and the expiring hope of faithful Masons? No! blessed be God! We pause not at our first or second step, but true to our principles we look forward for greater light; and as the embers of mortal life are feebly glimmering in the sockets of existence, and the lamp of life is well nigh gone out, the Bible, that great light in Masonry, removes the dark shroud and draws aside the sable curtains of the tomb, and bids Faith, Hope and Joy to rouse up to sustain and cheer the departing spirit; it points beyond the silent tomb to the breaking light of the resurrection morn, and bids us turn an eye of faith and confidence on the opening scenes of a vast and boundless eternity. Thus, my brethren, we close our remarks on the solemn thought of death, which without revelation, is dark and gloomy.

But our hopes are suddenly revived by the A.: or E.: which bloomed at the head of the grave of the illustrious dead, and which is an emblem of that immortal part of man which survives the tomb, and bears the nearest affinity to the Supreme intelligence which pervades and animates all nature, and which can never, never, no, never die.

Then, my brethren, let us see to it, and regulate our lives by the Plumb-line of Justice, ever squaring our actions by the Square of Virtue, that when the Grand Warden of Heaven shall call for us, we may be found ready.

Let us cultivate assiduously those noble tenets of our profession, Brotherly-love, Relief and Truth. From the Square, learn Morality; from the Level, Equality; and from the Plumb, Rectitude of Life. Let us imitate in all his varied perfections, him, who when assaulted by wicked and rebellious craftsmen, maintained his integrity even in death, and sealed his principles with his vital blood. Let us emulate his amiable and virtuous conduct. His unfeigned piety to his God, and his inflexible fidelity to his trust. And as the Acacia or Evergreen bloomed at the head of his grave, and betrayed the place of his interment, so may virtue, by its ever-blooming loveliness designate us Free and Accepted Masons.

With the Trowel, spread liberally the cement of Brotherly-love, circumscribe by the Compasses, ponder well your words and actions, and let all the energies of your minds, and the affections of our souls be employed in the attainment of our Supreme Grand Master's approbation.

Then when our dissolution draws nigh, when the cold winds of death come sighing around us, and his chilly dews already glisten upon our foreheads, with joy, shall we obey the summons of the Grand Warden of Heaven and go from our labors on earth, to everlasting refreshments in

the Paradise of God, then by the benefit of the *Pass*, a pure and a blameless life, with a firm reliance on Divine Providence, and an unshaken confidence in the merits of the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, shall we gain ready admission into the Celestial Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides, and when placed at the right hand of the Supreme Grand Master, He will be pleased to pronounce us just and upright Masons. Then shall we be fitly prepared as living stones for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, where no discordant voice shall be heard, but all the soul shall experience will be perfect bliss, and all it shall express will be perfect praise, and love divine shall ennoble every heart, and hosannahs exalted shall employ every tongue.

HYMN.—“Brother thou art gone to rest.”—See *Masonic Harp*, page 72.

After Hymn, Invocation, and return to lodge.

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The Grand Master having examined the proposed Burial Service, as defined by our R. W. Bro. C. N. Daniels, would recommend its adoption by the fraternity in this jurisdiction.

Fraternally,

E. W. DURANT,  
Grand Master.

January 15th, 1879.

## DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

The Grand Lodge Jurisdiction of the State of Minnesota is hereby divided into Districts, and Deputies therefor are appointed as hereinafter stated, respectively.

### FIRST DISTRICT.

R. W. D. B. LOOMIS, (1), STILLWATER.

St. Johns, No.....	1	Acacia, No.....	51
St. Paul, No.....	3	Zion, No.....	55
Ancient Landmark, No.....	5	Golden Rule, No.....	65
Dakota, No.....	7	Palestine, No.....	79
Mt. Moriah, No.....	35	Newport, No.....	118

### SECOND DISTRICT.

R. W. J. H. NOBLE, (19,) MINNEAPOLIS WEST.

Cataract, No.....	2	Khurum, No.....	112
Hennepin, No.....	4	Excelsior, No.....	113
Minneapolis, No.....	19	Winslow Lewis, No.....	125
Watertown, No.....	50		

### THIRD DISTRICT.

R. W. SAMUEL E. ADAMS, (16,) MONTICELLO.

Monticello, No.....	16	Sherburne, No.....	95
Anoka, No.....	30	Centennial, No.....	127
Star, No.....	62	Nelson, No.....	135
Fraternal, No.....	92		

## FOURTH DISTRICT.

R. W. E. P. BARNUM, (60,) SAUK CENTER.

North Star, No.....	23	Paynesville, No .....	71
Clearwater, No.....	28	Constellation, No.....	81
Star in the West, No.....	60	Unity, No.....	93

## FIFTH DISTRICT.

R. W. E. PORRET, (105,) FARGO, D. T.

Corner Stone, No. ....	99	Mt. Tabor, No.....	106
Aurora, No.....	100	Bismarck, No.....	120
Shilo, No.....	105	Moorhead, No.....	126

## SIXTH DISTRICT.

R. W. JOHN H. BROWN, (44,) WILLMAR.

Howard, No.....	82	Swift, No.....	129
Golden Fleece, No.....	89	Golden Sheaf, No.....	133
Sharon, No.....	104	Cokato, No .....	134

## SEVENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. ALBERT MARDEN, (98,) NEW ULM.

Antiquity, No .....	91	Granite, No.....	117
Keystone, No .....	94	Delta, No.....	119
Charity, No.....	98	Walnut, No.....	136
Sunset, No .....	109		

## EIGHTH DISTRICT.

R. W. THOS. MONTGOMERY, (54,) ST. PETER.

Mankato, No .....	12	Madelia, No.....	66
King Hiram, No .....	31	Joppa, No.....	76
Union, No .....	45	Henderson, No.....	80
Concord, No .....	47	Bethel, No .....	103
Nicollet, No .....	54	Josephus, No .....	128

## NINTH DISTRICT.

R. W. C. N. DANIELS, (9,) FARIBAULT.

Faribault, No .....	9	Cannon River, No .....	52
Wilton, No .....	24	Temple, No .....	59
Sakatah, No .....	32	Corinthian, No .....	67
Star in the East, No .....	33	Tuscan, No .....	77
Oriental, No .....	34	Carver, No .....	111
Hope, No .....	42	Prairie, No .....	123
King Solomon, No .....	44	Janesville, No .....	124
Social, No .....	48	Humboldt, No .....	132

## TENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. I. B. CUMMINGS, (18,) WINONA.

Red Wing, No .....	8	Minneiska, No .....	74
Wapahasa, No .....	14	Pickwick, No .....	110
Winona, No .....	18	Kellogg, No .....	122
Morning Star, No .....	29	Arcturus, No .....	130
Carnelian, No .....	40		

## ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. O. H. PAGE, (22,) PLEASANT GROVE.

Pleasant Grove, No .....	22	Ashlar, No .....	61
Harmony, No .....	43	Illustrious, No .....	63
Evergreen, No .....	46	High Forest, No .....	85
Rising Sun, No .....	49	Adoniram, No .....	107
Meridian, No .....	56	Elgin, No .....	115

## TWELFTH DISTRICT.

R. W. A. J. EDGERTON, (11,) KASSON.

Mantorville, No .....	11	Hermon, No .....	41
Rochester, No .....	21	Huram Abi, No .....	83
Mystic Tie, No .....	37	Tyrian, No .....	86
Washington, No .....	38	Relief, No .....	108

## THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. J. D. FARMER, (58,) SPRING VALLEY.

Hokah No,.....	17	Lansing, No .....	72
Caledonia, No.....	20	Brownsville, No .....	73
Preston, No .....	36	Mystic Circle, No.....	78
Spring Valley, No.....	58		

## FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. I. INGMUNDSON, (39,) AUSTIN.

Western Star, No.....	26	Lebanon, No.....	102
Fidelity, No.....	39	Lafayette, No .....	116
Mystic Star, No .....	69	Grand Meadow, No.....	121
Eureka, No .....	75	Alma, No .....	131
Orient, No.....	84		

## FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. C. H. SMITH, (97,) WINDOM.

Blue Earth Valley, No .....	27	Libanus, No .....	96
Blue Earth City, No.....	57	Prudence, No .....	97
Chain Lake, No .....	64	Fraternity, No.....	101
Doric, No.....	87	Ben Franklin, No .....	114
Good Faith, No .....	90		

# CONSTITUTION

OF THE

## Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

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WE, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota, practicing the Ancient York Rite, in order to perform perfect union, establish order, insure tranquility, provide for and promote the general welfare of the Craft, and to secure to the fraternity within our jurisdiction, the blessing of the Masonic privilege, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

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### PART FIRST—POWERS AND PRIVILEGES.

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#### TITLE FIRST—OF MASONIC GOVERNMENT.

SECTION 1. The government of Free and Accepted Masons is reposed—

1st. In Grand Lodges; and

2d. In subordinate or particular lodges.

SEC. 2. A Grand Lodge is a body of Masons in whom is inalienably vested the government and superintendence of the fraternity within its territorial jurisdiction, and is primarily composed of its Grand officers, and the Master and Wardens, or their proxies, of the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction. It may also enlarge or diminish its numbers, at its pleasure, by a provision, or change of its Constitution.

SEC. 3. A subordinate or particular lodge consists of a Master, a Senior and Junior Warden, a Treasurer, a Senior and Junior Deacon, and as many members as may be convenient,

congregating and working by virtue of a warrant held under the Grand Lodge, having lawful jurisdiction over it, and at the place designated in the warrant, or by the Grand Lodge.

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#### TITLE SECOND—OF MASONIC LAWS.

SEC. 4. The action of Freemasons in their Grand or subordinate lodges, or in their individual character, is regulated and controlled—

- 1st. By Ancient Landmarks.
- 2d. By written Constitutions and General Regulations; and
- 3d. By Usages, Customs, Rules, Edicts and Resolutions, having the force of General Regulations.

SEC. 5. The Ancient Landmarks, are those principles of Masonic government and polity, which are among the parts of Masonic law, or rule of government that may never be altered or disturbed, as for instance, the universal language of Masons, and those peculiar marks of distinction by which we are separated from the profane, and by which we are enabled to prove ourselves as the “Sons of Light.”

SEC. 6. Constitutions are those written compacts or laws, adopted by Freemasons for the government of a Grand Lodge, and its subordinate lodges and their members, including General Regulations that are constitutionally adopted, and intended to be permanent in their character.

SEC. 7. General Regulations, Usages, Customs, Rules, Edicts and Resolutions, are those Masonic Rules of action, adopted by competent authority, for local or temporary purposes, admitting of change at convenience, and not embraced in Ancient Landmarks or Constitutions, and are frequently termed By-Laws.

SEC. 8. The following are enumerated as among the Ancient Constitutions having the force of Ancient Landmarks of the fraternity, as such, having been generally received and acknowledged by Masons:

- 1st. That belief in the Supreme Being, “The Great Architect of the Universe,” who will punish vice and reward virtue, is an indispensable prerequisite to admission to Masonry.



2d. That the moral law, which inculcates charity and probity, industry and sobriety, and obedience to law and civil government, is the rule and guide of every Mason, and to which strict conformity is required.

3d. That obedience to the Masonic law and authority being voluntarily assumed, is of perpetual obligation.

4th. That the rights and ceremonies (which include the unwritten language,) of the true system of the Ancient York Rite, and which constitute a part of the body of Masonry, are immutable, and that it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations therein.

5th. That contentions and lawsuits between brethren are contrary to the laws and regulations of Masonry.

6th. That charity is the right of a Mason, his widow and orphans, when poor and destitute, to demand, and the duty of his prosperous brother to bestow.

7th. That Masonic instruction is, like charity, a reciprocal right and duty of Masons.

8th. That to visit Masonically is an inherent right of Masons; but no visitor shall be received into a lodge if any member present object.

9th. That men made Masons, must be of mature age, free-born, of good report, hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered, and no eunuch.

10th. That the Grand Master may make Masons at sight, and may grant a dispensation to a lodge for the same purpose, but in other cases a candidate must be proposed in open lodge, at a stated meeting, and can only be accepted at a stated meeting following, by the scrutiny of secret ballot, and an unanimous vote, and must pay a fixed price before admission.

11th. It is the duty of every Mason to be a contributing member of some lodge.

12th. That a Mason who is not a member of a lodge, is still subject to the disciplinary power of Masonry.

13th. That the Master and Wardens of every warranted lodge are of right and inalienably, representatives in and members of the Grand Lodge.

14th. That no one can be elected Master of a warranted lodge

(except at its first election,) but a Master Mason who shall have served as a Warden.

15th. That every Mason must be tried by his peers ; hence the Master cannot be tried by his lodge.

16th. That no appeal to the lodge can be taken from the decision of the Master, or the Wardens occupying the chair in his absence.

17th. That Masonic intercourse with a clandestine or expelled Mason, is a breach of duty, and an offence against Masonic law.

18th. That a restoration of the privileges of Masonry by the Grand Lodge, does not restore to membership in the subordinate lodge.

19th. That a failure to meet by a lodge for one year, is cause for the forfeiture of its warrant.

20th. That it is the duty as well as the right of every warranted lodge to be represented in the Grand Lodge at its communications.

21st. That a Grand Lodge has supreme and exclusive jurisdiction, within its territorial limits, over all matters of Ancient Craft Masonry.

22d. That no appeal lies from the decision of the Grand Master in the chair, or his Deputy or Warden, occupying the chair in his absence.

23d. That the office of Grand Master is always elective, and should be filled annually by the Grand Lodge.

24th. That a Grand Lodge composed of its officers and representatives, must meet at least once in each year, to consult and act concerning the interests of the fraternity in its jurisdiction.

25th. That all officers of Grand or subordinate lodges must be Master Masons.

26th. That no subject of a sectarian or political character can be discussed in a lodge, and any Mason proposing such a subject, renders himself liable to the disciplinary action of the lodge.

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### TITLE THIRD--OF GRAND LODGES.

SEC. 9. The powers and privileges of Grand Lodges are—

- 1st. Executive.
- 2d. Legislative ; and
- 3d. Judicial.

The exercise of these powers and privileges is defined in particular Constitutions and General Regulations, which it has an inalienable right to frame and adopt at its convenience, and to amend, alter, add to; or repeal, at its pleasure, under the limitations therein imposed, and are final and conclusive upon all parties concerned until altered or reversed by the Grand Lodge. But nothing can be adopted in derogation of the Ancient Landmarks ; nor can any legislative act or general regulation be passed, affecting the interest of the whole fraternity, except at a stated annual communication.

SEC. 10. All the executive powers of a Grand Lodge, when not in session, are reposed in its Grand Master.

SEC. 11. The legislative powers of a Grand Lodge extend to every case of legislation not delegated or reserved to subordinate lodges.

SEC. 12. The judicial powers of a Grand Lodge are of two kinds :

1st. Original—embracing all matters of controversy which may arise between any of the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, or the members of different lodges, and the enforcement of discipline upon its own members, and the lodges under its jurisdiction, and upon individual Masons ; Provided, That this clause shall not be so construed as to deprive a subordinate lodge of the right to enforce discipline upon any of its members, except the Master or Grand Master while in office ; and

2d. Appellate—embracing all matters of controversy and discipline, proper for Masonic investigation, arising in any subordinate lodge, and over which it has not exercised original jurisdiction.

SEC. 13. All governmental powers, whether executive, legislative or judicial, not expressly delegated by the Grand Lodge, are inherent in and reserved to it as the supreme governing body.

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#### TITLE FOURTH—OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

SEC. 14. The powers and privileges of a subordinate or par-

ticular lodge are such as are defined in its warrant; and by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge granting the same; and the Ancient Landmarks and General Regulations; and are divided into—

1st. Executive—in the direction and performance of its work under the control of its Master, and in all other matters in aid of the Master, who has the primary executive power of a lodge;

2d. Legislative—embracing all matters relating to its internal concerns, not in derogation of the Ancient Landmarks, the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and its own particular By-Laws; and

3d. Judicial—embracing the exercise of discipline, and settlement of controversies between and over all its members (except the Master,) and over all Masons and non-affiliated brethren within its jurisdiction, subject to an appeal to the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 15. Lodges shall take precedence according to the seniority of their respective warrants.

SEC. 16. A lodge can only be organized by,—

1st. The dispensation of the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master.

2d. The warrant of the Grand Lodge having jurisdiction; and in either case only upon the application of not less than seven regular Master Masons.

SEC. 17. A lodge can only be dissolved—

1st By the act of the Grand Lodge, whereby its warrant is forfeited.

2d. By a voluntary surrender of its warrant. But no lodge can surrender its warrant, so long as seven regular Master Masons, including the present or a Past Master, or a present or a former Warden, are desirous of retaining it.

SEC. 18. The acts by which a warrant may be forfeited, are—

1st. Contumacy to the authority of the Grand Master or Grand Lodge.

2d. Departure from the original plan of Masonry, and Ancient Landmarks.

3d. Disobedience to the Constitutions; or

4th. Ceasing to meet for one year.

The surrender or forfeiture of a warrant when declared by the

Grand Lodge ; or the expiration of the term for which a dispensation had been issued, (unless a charter or warrant is granted by the Grand Lodge,) or the withdrawing of the same by the Grand Master, shall be conclusive upon the lodge and its members, and carries with it all the property of the lodge which becomes the property of the Grand Lodge, and must, on demand, be surrendered by the last Master, or whoever has it in custody, to the Grand Lodge, or its authorized agent.

SEC. 19. No warrant of a lodge can be forfeited except upon charges regularly made in the Grand Lodge, at its annual communication, of which due notice shall be given the lodge, and an opportunity of being heard in defence ; but it may be suspended by the Grand Lodge, or Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master, at any time upon proper cause shown, which suspension shall not extend beyond the next annual communication.

SEC. 20. A lodge may not remove its place of meeting from the city, town or village named in its warrant ; nor from one place to another in the same city, town, or village, except by a concurrent vote of two-thirds of the members present, at a stated meeting, or at a meeting to be appointed, for which a summons shall be issued stating its object, which summons must be served at least ten days previous to such meeting, and such removal from the city, town, or village, must receive the sanction of the Grand Lodge, or Grand Master previous thereto.

SEC. 21. A lodge has full power and authority to enact By-Laws for its own government, conformable to its Grand Lodge Constitutions and the principles of Masonry, and any By-Law inconsistent therewith, is absolutely void.

SEC. 22. A lodge has power to make but five new brethren at the same time, without a dispensation from the Grand Master, nor shall the second or third degrees be conferred until the candidate has proved his proficiency in the preceding degrees by a satisfactory examination in open lodge, except by dispensation from the Grand Master or his Deputy.

SEC. 23. A lodge may not initiate any person without due inquiry into his qualifications ; nor shall any visitor be admitted without satisfactory proof that he is in good standing in his lodge, or was, in the last lodge of which he was a member ; nor shall

any non-affiliated Mason be permitted to visit any one lodge in this jurisdiction more than three times while he remains thus non-affiliated, who is a permanent resident within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

SEC. 24. The Masters, Wardens, Treasurer, and Secretary of subordinate or particular lodges, must be elective; other offices may be filled as the By-Laws of said lodge may prescribe. All elective officers must be chosen annually by ballot, and by a majority of votes. All appointed officers must be chosen immediately after the installation of the Master. All officers should, if practicable, be installed on or before the next stated communication after they shall have been chosen.

SEC. 25. A lodge may fill vacancies in office, except those of Master and Wardens, (as their By-Laws may prescribe,) at any stated communication, upon full notice to the members.

SEC. 26. Every member of a lodge in good standing is entitled to one vote, and every voter is eligible to any office in the lodge, except that of Master. None but Master Masons and those who have signed the By-Laws can be members of a subordinate or particular lodge.

SEC. 27. The ballot for candidates or membership is strictly and inviolably secret, and to elect must be unanimous.

SEC. 28. No lodge can receive, refer, or act upon a petition for initiation or membership, or ballot for initiates, officers, or membership, or adopt any resolution affecting the By-Laws of the Lodge, at any other than a stated communication. Every lodge should meet at least once in every month for the dispatch of business.

SEC. 29. No lodge can, at a special meeting, alter or expunge any part of the proceedings of a stated one.

SEC. 30. In the absence of, vacancy in the office, or inability of the Master, the Senior and Junior Wardens will, in succession, succeed to his prerogatives and duties for all purposes. In the absence of all three of the aboved named officers, the lodge may be opened by one of its Past Masters.

SEC. 31. No lodge shall confer the degrees for a less sum than fifteen dollars; nor upon credit, or receive a promissory note therefor in lieu of money, nor distribute its funds among its mem-

bers, nor introduce ardent spirits within its lodge room, or any room adjoining, or meet for Masonic labors, other than deeds of charity, on the Sabbath, or first day of the week.

SEC. 32. A lodge under dispensation is but a temporary and inchoate body, and is not entitled to representation in the Grand Lodge, and those who work it do not forfeit their membership thereby in any other lodge while it so continues, but such membership is thereby suspended.

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#### TITLE FIFTH—OF PENALTIES.

SEC. 33. The penalties imposed by Masonic law, are—

1st. Reprimand, which may be done privately or in open lodge, by the Master.

2d. Suspension, which is either limited or indefinite; and

3d. Expulsion, which always implies a termination not only of his Masonic intercourse and connection with the body inflicting it, but from the Masonic fraternity, unless an appeal be made.

SEC. 34. Suspension applies to lodges as well as to individuals, and when inflicted upon a lodge, it suspends all its members unless expressly excepted. Suspension and expulsion imply interdiction of all Masonic intercourse with delinquents while in force.

SEC. 35. Suspension is only inflicted when the offence is against some temporary regulation of the fraternity; expulsion follows a gross violation of the moral law, or the fundamental principles of Masonry, or attempts against any part of the framework of its government. Neither shall be published to any but Masons, except by permission of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master.

SEC. 36. A lodge may pronounce sentence of indefinite suspension, or expulsion, which shall be final unless appealed from within six months of the knowledge of the sentence, and reversed or modified on such appeal by the Grand Lodge. But the Grand Lodge may, on application, after one year from the sentence, restore any one suspended or expelled by a lodge or Grand Lodge, in its discretion.



SEC. 37. Arrears for one year's dues may subject a member to be stricken from the roll of his lodge; and such fact shall be stated in the annual return, and the lodge thereafter shall not be liable to the Grand Lodge for such dues, and the member shall thereupon become non-affiliated, but no act of expulsion shall be pronounced thereon for non-payment of dues only.

SEC. 38. Any poor brother, unable to pay the adjoining fee, may be received without such fee by any lodge as an honorary member thereof, by the unanimous vote of the brethren present, after one month's previous notice; and the lodge may excuse such brother from the payment of any dues, and shall not be liable to the Grand Lodge for such fees and dues.

SEC. 39. It being the duty of every Mason to belong to a lodge and contribute to its funds; therefore, any Mason who does not contribute to the funds or belong to some lodge, shall not be entitled to join in processions, or receive assistance, or Masonic burial.

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#### TITLE SIXTH—OF TRIAL AND ITS INCIDENTS.

SEC. 40. All charges for unmasonic conduct, committed while the craft is at labor, shall be preferred by the Senior Warden, and all charges for such conduct, while the craft is at refreshment, (including the time intervening between the various meetings of the lodge,) shall be preferred by the Junior Warden.

SEC. 41. Any brother feeling himself aggrieved shall request the proper Warden of his lodge to prefer charges against the brother injuring him, and in case the Warden should refuse to act, the brother aggrieved has full authority to prefer such charges himself; should the accused, however, be acquitted, he may prefer a charge against his accuser for acting maliciously.

SEC. 42. When two brethren reside within the jurisdiction of different lodges, the brother aggrieved shall first apply to the Warden of the lodge to which the offending brother is amenable, and in case of that officer refusing to act, he may apply to his own lodge, and that lodge may by resolution, request the proper officer of the sister lodge to prefer the charges against the offending



brother, and in case of such a resolution, duly certified by the Worshipful Master and Secretary, being handed to the presiding officer of a sister lodge, it shall be his duty to take notice of the same and govern himself accordingly.

SEC. 43. The accused shall be permitted to engage a brother Master Mason to defend him, to answer the complaint, produce and cross-examine witnesses, obtain a reasonable delay, showing a sufficient cause for the same, and either by himself or counsel, address the lodge after the closing of the testimony, but never shall offensive allusions to, or insinuations against the lodge or a brother be permitted, and the Worshipful Master shall order the brother so offending to leave the lodge, and the Senior Warden may bring charges against such brother for unmasonic conduct.

SEC. 44. The accused cannot vote on his own case; but no other member of the lodge present can be excused from voting; but no lodge shall proceed to trial until by summons duly served, all members within its jurisdiction shall have been notified.

SEC. 45. Whenever a member of a lodge, or a brother Master Mason, under this jurisdiction, shall be accused of crime or offence, which if proved would subject him to suspension or expulsion, the proceedings in the premises shall be conducted, substantially, agreeably to the following rules:

RULE I. The accusation shall be reduced to writing, by a brother, and given in charge to the S. or J. W., in accordance with ancient usage, whose duty it shall be to present said charges to the lodge at the first regular meeting thereafter, and the lodge shall refer the same to a judicious committee for investigation. The committee shall serve, or cause to be served, on the accused, an attested copy of the charge or charges, together with a notice of the time and place of investigation, not less than fourteen days prior to the time appointed for such investigation; *provided* the residence of the accused shall be known, and shall be within the distance of fifty miles of the place where the lodge having the matter in charge, is located. If the residence of the accused be a greater distance than fifty miles from the place of hearing, but within the State, then a summons to appear and show cause may be served personally, or by depositing the same in the post office, addressed to the accused at the post office where

he resides, postage paid, not less than twenty days before the time of investigation, which being proved shall be deemed sufficient service. If his residence be out of the State and unknown, the lodge may proceed *ex parte*; but if known, a summons shall be served personally or by mail as aforesaid, not less than forty days before the time appointed for the investigation.

RULE 2. No person shall be present during the investigation before the committee except the members of the committee, the party accused, their counsel and the summoned witnesses.

RULE 3. Each witness shall be examined separately and apart from the other witnesses, if desired by the accused, and all testimony proper to be written shall be reduced to writing by the committee.

RULE 4. The accused shall have the benefit of counsel of any one who is a Master Mason in good standing, if he desire it; also of cross-examination, and rebutting testimony, before the committee, and of counsel in open lodge after the committee report, and before the vote is taken by the lodge. After having been heard in open lodge, the accused, his counsel, and all parties interested personally in the prosecution of the complaint, or related within the degrees of affinity or consanguinity, shall retire before the question is discussed or decided by the lodge.

RULE 5. An accused brother should be judged according to the evidence, and in accordance with the well recognized and sound principles of the common law; and since no brother can pronounce judgment upon his honor, contrary to his own conviction, it becomes the duty of every one, whether called upon or not, to lay before the committee such facts in regard to the case under investigation as he may be cognizant of, but such testimony must be given in presence of the accused or his counsel. Any brother failing to make known any facts pertinent to the question before the committee, should be held amenable to all the penalties of Masonic discipline.

RULE 6. In pronouncing upon the guilt or innocence of an accused brother, the roll of the lodge shall be called, beginning with the youngest Mason, and ending with the W. M., and every brother, as his name is called, shall rise, salute the Master, and pronounce his judgment upon his honor, as a Mason, "guilty," or "not guilty," of unmasonic conduct.

RULE 7. If the verdict be guilty, the lodge shall forthwith proceed, in its own prudent way, to declare and record the *degree* of punishment to be inflicted.

RULE 8. In no case shall the accused or his counsel be present when judgment is pronounced, and the revealing of any transaction of the lodge, with regard to voting in the case under consideration, shall be sufficient cause for *expulsion*.

RULE 9. If the verdict be tantamount to *suspension*, and an appeal be duly taken, an attested copy of the proceedings shall be sent up at the ensuing meeting of the Grand Lodge, for examination and final action. If tantamount to *expulsion*, like proceedings shall be furnished Grand Lodge, and it shall operate as a suspension only, until the affirmance of the Grand Lodge shall be obtained.

RULE 10. The Grand Lodge shall, within a reasonable time after an appeal shall have been perfected in cases of suspension, and in all cases of expulsion, proceed to examine the case as presented in the certified transcript, and make a just, equitable, and final decision of the matter.

RULE 11. Any brother deeming himself aggrieved by the decision of suspension, or by a decision refusing to suspend, may appeal to the Grand Lodge against such decision.

The appeal must be made in writing within six months after the decision complained of, and transmitted to the Grand Secretary ten days at least before the first day of the session of the Grand Lodge thereafter. A notice and copy of the appeal must, at the time, be sent by the appellant to the party against whose decision the appeal is made.

RULE 12. A reversal of the decision of the Lodge, made by the G. L., shall have the effect only to restore the accused to the general rights and privileges of Masonry, and not to membership within the body from which he was suspended or expelled, without its unanimous consent.

RULE 13. In cases of original investigation, when any testimony offered shall be objected to by either party, the committee shall fairly and impartially note the objection, and then receive the testimony under the objection.

RULE 14. Either party shall be entitled to process to compel

the attendance of witnesses, being members of the order, and the committee shall have full power to issue the same.

RULE 15. The Grand Lodge retains original jurisdiction in all cases of its own members, or of Masters of lodges while in office.

RULE 16. All provisions of this Constitution, conflicting with the foregoing rules and regulations, are hereby repealed.

SEC. 46. In no case shall the accused be present when judgment is pronounced, and the revealing of any transaction of the lodge, with regard to voting in the case under consideration, shall be sufficient cause for expulsion.

SEC. 47. No visiting brother, unless a witness, or as counsel for the accused, shall be admitted to the lodge while the trial is in progress, and neither counsel or witness, unless members of the lodge, shall remain within during voting.

SEC. 48. After a brother has been found guilty, the next question shall be that of punishment, beginning with the greatest, and on this question the ballot may be used, under the direction of the Worshipful Master, provided that a two-third vote shall be required to inflict the penalty of expulsion.

SEC. 49. Charges against the Master of a lodge can only be presented to the Grand Lodge, while he continues in office, or within one year thereafter.

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#### TITLE SEVENTH—OF CHARITY.

SEC. 50. Every brother in good standing, and the wives, widows, and minor children of such, have a claim to charitable relief from the funds of the Grand Lodge, or any of its subordinates, upon presenting satisfactory evidence of their Masonic character or relations, and that they are in necessitous circumstances.

SEC. 51. When such a claim shall be made upon the funds of the Grand Lodge when in session, it shall be referred to the Grand Stewards and Grand Treasurer, who shall report thereon to the Grand Lodge at the same session.

SEC. 52. When such a claim shall be made in the recess, it shall be presented to the Grand Master, his Deputy, the Grand Wardens, or the Grand Secretary, who shall select three brethren,

Past Masters, Master, or Wardens of lodges, who shall be a committee to examine and report thereon; and the Grand Treasurer shall pay any draft upon him for such relief made by them, and countersigned by the Grand Officer appointing them, not exceeding fifty dollars for any one object.

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#### TITLE EIGHTH—OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

SEC. 53. The officers of a Grand Lodge are elected or appointed, and hold their offices for one year, or until their successors are chosen and installed.

SEC. 54. The elective officers of a Grand Lodge are—the Grand Master, (whose style is Most Worshipful,) Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary, (the style of all of whom is Right Worshipful.)

SEC. 55. The appointed officers of a Grand Lodge are, a Grand Chaplain, Grand Marshal, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Steward, Senior and Junior Grand Deacons, Grand Pursuivant, and Grand Tyler, (the style of all of whom is Worshipful.)

SEC. 56. Elective officers of the Grand Lodge must be chosen at its annual communication, by ballot, and by a majority of votes. Appointed officers are selected by the Grand Master. It may have such additional officers as its necessities or objects require, to be provided for by a general regulation.

SEC. 57. Installation of the officers of the Grand Lodge must take place during the annual communication at which they are selected; and vacancies may be filled by temporary appointment from the Grand Master till the next annual election.

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#### TITLE NINTH—DUTIES AND POWERS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SEC. 58. The Most Worshipful Grand Master has power to—

1st. Convene any lodge within the jurisdiction; to preside

therein ; to inspect their proceedings, and require their conformity to Masonic rules.

2d. To require the attendance of any Grand Officer in his visitations to subordinate lodges, and information respecting the duties of their offices.

3d. To make Masons at sight ; and may, by written dispensation, delegate this power to a lodge.

4th. To convene the Grand Lodge, by giving twenty days notice.

5th. To suspend a lodge, or a brother, until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, when he shall present the reasons for such suspension in writing.

6th. To grant dispensations for new lodges, (when the Grand Lodge is not in session,) or for a lodge to change its place of meeting, (in accordance with section 20,) or for public processions or assemblies ; (except in cases of Masonic funerals, which shall not require a dispensation,) or for the election of Master or Wardens of subordinate lodges.

7th. To exercise all such other powers as are warranted or required of him by the Ancient Regulations, or customs of the craft ; provided always, that he shall have no power to suspend the operation of any By-Law of this Grand Lodge.

The duties of Grand Master are—

1st. To preside at all meetings of the Grand Lodge.

2d. To appoint all officers and committees of this Grand Lodge not otherwise provided for.

3d. To lay before the Grand Lodge, on the first day of their annual communication, or as soon thereafter as possible, a written message, therein detailing an account of his official acts during the recess, the state and condition of Masonry in the jurisdiction, and recommend to the Grand Lodge such measures as he may deem expedient and necessary.

4th. To give the casting vote in the Grand Lodge whenever on any question there shall be an equal number of votes.

5th. To visit each subordinate lodge in the jurisdiction at least once in the year.

6th. To exercise a supervisory control over the Grand Officers, instruct them in their various duties, and see that the same are performed.

SEC. 59. The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master's powers and duties are—

1st. He must attend the meetings of the Grand Lodge, and render the Grand Master such assistance as may be required of him.

2d. In case of the death or permanent removal from the jurisdiction of the Grand Master, he may exercise all the powers, and perform all the duties of Grand Master until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

3d. In the temporary absence of the Grand Master from the jurisdiction, he may, with the consent of the Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, call a meeting of the Grand Lodge, and exercise such other powers and duties appertaining to the office of Grand Master, as the interest of the craft may in his judgment demand.

SEC. 60. The Grand Wardens shall assist the Grand Master in the Grand Lodge, and attend him in the Grand Visitations when required, and discharge such other duties as appertain to their office. In the absence of the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Warden shall preside; and in his absence the Junior Warden shall preside.

SEC. 61. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary—

1st. To record the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

2d. To receive and keep a proper account of all moneys of the Grand Lodge, and pay over the same without delay to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same.

3d. To keep a register in which to enter all warrants, dispensations or certificates, granted by the Grand Lodge, Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master.

4th. To keep a register of all the subordinate lodges and their members, with a permanent number prefixed to each name, together with the age, occupation, residence, date of initiation, passing, raising, admission, withdrawal, expulsion, suspension, restoration, or death, returned for registry.

5th. To receive, file, and safely keep, all papers and documents of the Grand Lodge.

6th. To sign and certify all instruments of the Grand Lodge; and shall have the custody of the Seal of the Grand Lodge.

7th. To report annually to the Grand Lodge the amount of

moneys received by him, by items, and the specific sources from which it was received, and also the lodges that have neglected to render proper returns of their elections, members and dues, and such general information as to the state of the lodges, as may be proper for the information or action of the Grand Lodge.

8th. To conduct the correspondence of the Grand Lodge, under the direction of the Grand Master, in a Masonic manner.

9th. To attend, with all the necessary writings under his control, at all meetings of the Grand Lodge, on the requisition of the Grand Master; and also to attend upon the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, on Masonic business, when required.

10th. To transmit to the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, a certificate of the election of Grand officers, immediately thereafter, containing their signatures respectively, and authenticated under his hand and the Seal of the Grand Lodge, with a request for a similar document from each of said Grand Lodges.

SEC. 62. It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer—

1st. To take charge of all the funds, property, securities, and vouchers of the Grand Lodge.

2d. To pay all orders duly drawn under general regulations, or special directions of the Grand Lodge.

3d. To attend on the Grand Lodge or its presiding officer, when required, with the books and all necessary documents relating to his office, and when required, the meeting of any committee whose duty it may be to act in relation to the fiscal concerns of the Grand Lodge.

4th. To report annually to the Grand Lodge the amount of his receipts and expenditures, by items, and from whom received, and to whom paid, and the amount of securities in his hands for funds invested by the Trustees.

5th. To execute and file with the Grand Secretary an official bond, with sureties, to be approved by the Trustees, conditioned on the faithful performance of his duties as Grand Treasurer.

6th. To pay and deliver, at the expiration of his term, to his successor in office, or such person as shall be designated by the Grand Lodge, all moneys, securities, evidences of debt, books, writing, and property of the Grand Lodge under his control, with all proper assignments, when necessary.



SEC. 63. It shall be the duty of the Grand Chaplain to attend the Grand Lodge, and to perform the religious services.

SEC. 64. It shall be the duty of the Grand Marshal—

1st. To proclaim the Grand Officers at their installation.

2d. To introduce the representatives of foreign Grand Lodges and visiting brethren of distinction; and

3d. To conduct the processions of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 65. It shall be the duty of the Grand Standard Bearer to carry the grand banner of the order in processions and public ceremonies.

SEC. 66. It shall be the duty of the Grand Sword Bearer—

1st. To carry the sword in procession; and

2d. To perform such other duties as by ancient usage pertain to his office.

SEC. 67. It shall be the duty of the Grand Stewards—

1st. To examine into all applications made for charity to the Grand Lodge.

2d. To have immediate superintendence in the provision to be made for festivals.

SEC. 68. It shall be the duty of the Grand Deacons to assist within the body of the Grand Lodge in such duties as by usage appertain to their office.

SEC. 69. It shall be the duty of the Grand Pursuivant—

1st. To communicate with the Grand Tyler, and announce all applicants for admission, by their names, Masonic address, and connection.

2d. To take charge of the jewels and clothing, under the direction of the Grand officers.

3d. To attend all meetings of the Grand Lodge, and at other times, upon the requisition of the Grand Master or presiding officer.

SEC. 70. It shall be the duty of the Grand Tyler—

1st. To guard the door of the Grand Lodge on the outside; to report all persons claiming admission; to see that none enter unless duly authorized and properly clothed.

2d. To carry summons, and perform all customary services pertaining to his office.

3d. To attend all meetings of the Grand Lodge, and at other

times, upon the requisition of the Grand Master or presiding officer.

SEC. 71. The Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Pursuivant, and Grand Tyler, shall each receive such compensation for their services as the Grand Lodge shall direct.

SEC. 72. No amendment to the Constitution shall be made, or have effect, until it shall have been proposed in the Grand Lodge, at its annual communication, and concurred in by two-thirds of the members present. Said amendment shall then be printed with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, and sent to all the lodges under the jurisdiction; and if approved by two-thirds of the members at the next annual communication, it shall then be in full force and effect.

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## PART SECOND—GENERAL REGULATIONS.

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### TITLE FIRST—OF THE REGULATIONS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MINNESOTA.

SEC. 73. The style of this Grand Lodge shall be "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota."

SEC. 74. This Grand Lodge shall be composed of the Grand officers mentioned in sections 54 and 55 of this Constitution; and all Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, and the Master and Wardens, or their proxies, of all lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge. A proxy must have arrived to the rank of Warden.

SEC. 75. Every officer and member of the Grand Lodge must be a member of a subordinate lodge within the jurisdiction.

SEC. 76. The Grand Lodge shall meet annually in the city of St. Paul, on the second Tuesday after the first Monday in January, at which meeting the Grand officers shall be selected and installed, and all matters affecting the craft in this jurisdiction, shall be considered and acted upon. Special communications may be

held at any other time, on the requisition of the Grand Master ; but no business of legislation shall be transacted, or change of the Constitutions, regulations, or rules of government of the Grand Lodge or craft, shall be made, except at the Grand annual communication.

SEC. 77. Each lodge, represented either by their officers or their proxies, shall be entitled to three votes. If but two officers are present, and the third not represented by proxy, the officer highest in rank may have two votes. If two of said representatives be absent, the representative present shall cast the entire vote of the lodge.

SEC. 78. None but members of the Grand Lodge (past or present officers of other Grand Lodges excepted,) shall be present at the opening of the same, or during an election.

SEC. 79. No brother shall be admitted into the Grand Lodge but the members thereof, except by permission of the Grand Lodge. No brother residing in the vicinity of a lodge, and not a member of some lodge, shall be permitted to visit the Grand Lodge, except by special invitation.

SEC. 80. Each member of the Grand Lodge shall appear therein with his proper clothing and jewel.

SEC. 81. The jewels of the Grand Lodge shall be yellow, the collars and aprons of purple velvet. The jewels of the officers of subordinate lodges to be of silver ; the color of their collars blue, and of aprons, white trimmed with blue.

SEC. 82. All members of the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to one vote, except the appointed officers, who may not vote for the election of officers ; but the Grand Master has two votes. Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, shall each be entitled to one vote when in Grand Lodge ; but no Grand Officer, or Past Grand Officer shall be entitled to vote in a double capacity, but may elect in which capacity he will vote.

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#### TITLE SECOND—OF REVENUE AND FUNDS.

SEC. 83. The revenue of this Grand Lodge shall be derived from the following sources :

For every charter or warrant.....	\$45 00
For every dispensation for a new lodge.....	20 00
And if a charter or warrant be afterwards granted .....	25 00
For every dispensation to confer the three degrees in one evening .....	5 00
For every Grand Lodge diploma .....	1 50
For every degree conferred by a lodge .....	1 00
Every lodge shall pay for each of its members of one year's standing.....	50

SEC. 84. Every lodge shall be accountable for the dues of its members. Lodges may make by-laws exempting its Secretary, Chaplain, and Tyler from the payment of dues; in such cases the lodge shall be exempt from liability to the Grand Lodge for such dues.

SEC. 85. The management of the permanent funds shall be vested in a Board of Trustees, denominated the Trustees of the Permanent Fund, said Board to be composed of the Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary.

SEC. 86. All funds invested for the Grand Lodge shall stand in the corporate name of the Grand Lodge. The Trustees shall deposit in the hands of the Grand Treasurer the security and vouchers of the said invested funds, and shall have the power to transfer, sell, or dispose of, or appropriate any part of the invested fund, without a vote of the Grand Lodge at the annual communication, in such cases only when the security, in the opinion of said Board, shall become insufficient or of doubtful character.

### TITLE THIRD—OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

SEC. 87. That the following standing committees shall be appointed by the Grand Master, at the earliest practical period after the opening of such Grand annual communication :

1st. A committee of nine, to examine and report upon the returns of lodges.

2d. A committee of three upon work of lodges under dispensation.

3d. A committee of three to examine the books, vouchers, &c., of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

4th. A committee of two to examine visiting brethren.

5th. A committee of five on appeals and grievances.

6th. A committee of three on foreign correspondence.

7th. A committee of three on unfinished business.

8th. A committee of three on ancient landmarks.

9th. A committee of three on Masonic jurisprudence.

[9th. May report upon questions referred to them at the time, or succeeding session of the Grand Lodge.]

The committee on foreign correspondence shall report at the succeeding communication after their appointment.

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#### TITLE FOURTH—MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.

SEC. 88. All elections in this Grand Lodge shall be by ballot.

SEC. 89. Past Masters to be recognized by this Grand Lodge as such, are those who have been duly elected and installed. Provided, however, that this provision shall not affect the standing of such brethren as have been recognized as Past Masters by this Grand Lodge, at its previous communications.

SEC. 90. No Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, initiated or passed in any lodge within the United States, shall be passed, or raised in any lodge under this jurisdiction, other than that in which he was initiated, unless he shall procure a recommendation from the lodge in which he was initiated, provided said lodge continues in existence.

SEC. 91. No one shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior or Junior Grand Wardens, but Past Masters. Nor can the Grand Master be at the same time Master of a subordinate lodge.

SEC. 92. In all elections, a majority of the whole number of votes cast, shall be necessary to constitute a choice.

SEC. 93. The Grand Secretary, under the direction of the Grand Master, shall, at the opening of the session of the Grand Lodge, prepare a list of all the members of the Grand Lodge, with the number of votes affixed to which each member is entitled.

SEC. 94. No lodge shall be entitled to representation in the Grand Lodge that is in arrears for two years; but shall stand suspended until such time as it shall discharge such arrearages. The Grand Secretary shall notify such lodge, and if it does not appear by its representatives at the next annual communication thereafter, and discharge such arrearage, said lodge shall be stricken from the roll of lodges.

SEC. 95. The Grand Regulations, or By-Laws, of this Grand Lodge, may be amended at an annual communication, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

SEC. 96. All former Constitutions or Regulations of this Grand Lodge are hereby repealed.

# RESOLUTIONS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

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## DEGREE OF PAST MASTER.

*Resolved*, That the retiring Master from the chair of any lodge who has been formerly invested with the degree of Past Master, may, with the assistance of two or more Past Masters, confer said degree upon his successor in office, in order to qualify him for the same; yet no such Past Master, or convocation of Past Masters, can confer said degree in any other case or for any other purpose whatever.—(*Proceedings of 1856, page 44.*)

## LODGE RECORDS.

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the terms “adjourned,” “met by appointment,” “called off for two weeks,” (or any other time, except for actual refreshment,) are terms unknown to Masonry, and should not be used in Masonic lodges.—(*Proceedings of 1857, page 78.*)

## PETITIONS OF CANDIDATES.

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, committees of inquiry upon petitions presented in subordinate lodges, should make particular personal inquiry into the moral, physical, intellectual and social qualifications of petitioners, and should not in any case, rest satisfied with merely negative virtues, but should become convinced that the candidates will add to our moral as well as our numerical strength.—(*Proceedings of 1857, page 79.*)

*Resolved*, That all applicants for the degrees in Masonry, shall reside within the jurisdiction of the subordinate lodge to which application is made, at least one year previous to making such application.—(*Proceedings of October, 1858, page 202.*)

## WITHDRAWAL OF PETITIONS.

*Resolved*, That a petition for the degrees of Masonry cannot be withdrawn from a lodge, unless favorably reported upon by the committee of investigation, and then only by unanimous vote of the lodge.—(*Proceedings of January, 1858, page 127.*)

## RENEWAL OF PETITIONS.

*Resolved*, That the time intervening between the rejection of a candidate in a subordinate lodge under this jurisdiction, and a re-application for the degrees in the same, shall be not less than six months.—(*Proceedings of October, 1858, page 201.*)

## ON APPEALS.

*Resolved*, That in all cases of suspension or expulsion which may hereafter take place in any lodge in this jurisdiction, when the party delinquent appeals from the decision of his lodge, an official report of the trial, together with all the papers and proceedings in the case, should be transmitted forthwith to the Grand Secretary, by the Secretary of said lodge, to the end that speedy justice may be done by the Grand Lodge.—(*Proceedings of January, 1858, page 118.*)

## LODGES U. . D. .

*Resolved*, That lodges U. . D. . applying to this Grand Lodge for charters, shall be hereafter required to send up their dispensations and records with their returns.—(*Proceedings of January, 1858, page 121.*)

*Resolved*, That in the organization of new lodges, the members of such lodges shall, before they are organized, withdraw from the lodges of which they were formerly members; and it shall be the duty of the officer appointed to install the officers of any new lodge, to require proper evidence of such withdrawal of all the members of such lodge, before installation, such evidence to be proper dimits.—(*Proceedings of 1879, page 52.*)

## APPOINTMENT OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

*Resolved*, That the M. . W. . Grand Master appoint Representatives from this Grand Body, to reside at or near, and represent us in other Grand Lodges, and respectfully request the appointment



of like Representatives to this Grand Lodge.—(*Proceedings of 1858, pages 203, 204.*)

#### NON-AFFILIATED MASONS.

*Resolved*, That no resident non-affiliated Mason shall be allowed to visit any subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction after he shall have resided in said jurisdiction six months.—(*Proceedings of October, 1859, page 285.*)

#### QUESTIONS BY WHOM TO BE DECIDED.

*Resolved*, That the brethren in this jurisdiction, in case of doubt on the construction of the written or unwritten laws of our institution, should apply to the legally constituted authorities of this Grand Lodge, and that application to brethren living under foreign jurisdiction is not only unnecessary, but if used for the purpose of fomenting strife and bitterness, highly unmasonic and censurable.—(*Proceedings of October, 1860, pages 367, 368.*)

#### FUNERALS.

*Resolved*, That the clothing of brethren at Masonic funerals shall be white aprons, white sashes and white gloves, with the exception of the officers, who shall wear their appropriate jewels

#### ITINERANT LECTURERS.

*Resolved*, That the lodges in this State are hereby prohibited from receiving the Masonic work, ritual or lectures, from any other than the constituted authorities of this jurisdiction.—(*Proceedings of October, 1861, page 435.*)

#### ON DUTIES OF ATTORNEYS.

*Resolved*, That any brother who is attorney and counselor within this jurisdiction, acting within the line of his duty as defined by law, is at liberty to undertake any cause that may seem to him to be just and legal, without regard to the character or standing of the party against whom he acts.—(*Proceedings of 1863, page 482, and page 531, 1864.*)

#### JURISDICTION OF A LODGE.

*Resolved*, That the jurisdiction of each subordinate lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall extend to one-half the distance to the nearest lodge in every direction.

*Resolved*, That no subordinate lodge shall entertain an application for the degrees in Masonry from any person residing within the jurisdiction of another subordinate lodge, but after an applicant has been balloted for and accepted, the lodge so accepting him may consent to his receiving the degrees and holding membership in another lodge.—(*Proceedings of 1864, pages 529, 530.*)

*Resolved*, That lodges under dispensation have the same rights as to jurisdiction as chartered lodges, and no other.—(*Proceedings of 1865, page 550.*)

#### STATED MEETINGS.

*Resolved*, That no lodge in this jurisdiction shall retain in its by-laws any provision for more than two stated meetings in any one month.—(*Proceedings of 1865, page 545.*)

#### LODGES MAY REMIT DUES.

*Resolved*, That any subordinate lodge within this jurisdiction may remit the dues of any of its members who are unable to pay the same, and the Grand Lodge dues for such brethren will be remitted.—(*Proceedings of 1867, page 603.*)

#### STRIKING FROM ROLL.

*Resolved*, That a brother stricken from the roll, pursuant to section 36, of title 5, of the Constitution, can become a member again only by a regular petition, a favorable report, and a unanimous ballot.—(*Proceedings of 1867, page 591.*)

*Resolved*, That whenever notice shall be given of a motion to strike the name of a brother from the roll of the lodge, for failure to pay his dues, the secretary of the lodge shall immediately enclose a copy of such notice, stating that at a meeting of said lodge (giving the date when said meeting will be held) a motion will be heard, to strike the name from the roll. Said notice shall be enclosed in an envelope, addressed to him at his last place of residence, and deposited in the postoffice, postage prepaid. If, after the lapse of a reasonable time, no answer shall be received, the motion shall be heard and decided, and Masonic proof of the mailing of said notice, by the secretary, shall be necessary before the hearing; provided, that if the residence of the brother shall

be unknown, such service of notice may be dispensed with.—  
(*Proceedings of 1877, page 66.*)

#### DUTIES OF COMMITTEE ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed by the Grand Master, upon Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom shall be referred all questions relating to the customs, usages, privileges and laws of the fraternity, and the Grand Master shall make a report to the Grand Lodge at each annual communication, of all decisions made by him, upon questions of Masonic law, during the year, which shall be referred to said committee, and the decisions, with the report of the committee, shall be published in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.—(*Proceedings of 1867, page 600.*)

#### AFFILIATION.

*Resolved*, That hereafter Masons shall not, in this jurisdiction, be permitted to join a lodge, until they shall first present lawful evidence that they have withdrawn from their former lodge.—  
(*Proceedings of 1879, page 52.*)

#### DUAL MEMBERS.

*Resolved*, That the regulation heretofore adopted by this Grand Lodge, prohibiting dual membership is hereby rescinded, and all brethren who have joined another lodge without first withdrawing from their former lodges, be and the same are hereby recognized as members of both lodges. Provided, that in all cases where a member has been dropped from the rolls, this resolution shall not restore him to membership in his former lodge.—(*Proceedings of 1879, page 52.*)

## INSTRUCTIONS.

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The necessity of accuracy in keeping the records of the subordinate lodges, cannot be too forcibly impressed. The process of registration (which has been neglected for several years) has developed a carelessness not credible but for its patency. This *must* be remedied, and to that end the Grand Master issues the following instructions. Lodges and secretaries will govern themselves accordingly.

### LODGE RECORDS.

The secretary of each lodge should have—

1st. A RECORD OR MINUTE BOOK.—This should be a well-bound volume, large enough to contain the records for several years, for reference in the future. In this book should be entered the transactions of each meeting, care being taken to enter the date of each communication, whether *stated* or *special*; the names, age, occupation, birthplace and residence of all petitioners; the names of the recommendors, and of the committee to whom referred. If the petition is for affiliation, the name, number and location of the lodge in which initiated, should be entered; and if the applicant has been a member of any lodge in this State, that fact should also be stated by entering the name and number. The candidate's progress should be entered, to the end that it may be traced, should occasion require.

To test the accuracy of the records, they *must be read* at each communication before the lodge is closed.

2d. A RECEIPT BOOK.—In which to take the treasurer's receipt for all moneys paid over to him. Punctuality in attendance is as much the business of the treasurer as it is of the secretary, and the latter officer should pay over all moneys received by him before the close of the meeting, taking a receipt, and noting the fact in his records.

3d. AN ACCOUNT BOOK.—In which to keep all the accounts of the lodge. In this book should be entered the name, as soon as the first degree is received, and he charged with the fee and credited with the amount, and so of subsequent degrees, and then charged with the dues and credited with amount paid, and when membership ceases the reason, as by withdrawal, death, &c., should be entered in this as well as in the minute book; particular care being given to *dates, day, month and year*, in all cases.

4th. A CONVENIENCE BOOK.—This book should be ruled in parallel columns, properly headed, to show at a glance the name, age, occupation and residence of all applicants, either for degrees or affiliation; the date of the presentation of petition; date of, and the action had; whether elected or rejected, and the date of the reception of each degree; of affiliating Masons, the name, number, and location of the lodge in which initiated; and under head of remarks, give the name and number of the lodge from which dimitted, if within this jurisdiction, provided it was not the lodge in which initiated.

The forms for petitions, if complied with, will furnish the preparatory data for this book.

A book thus prepared will facilitate the keeping of the registry book, and save a great deal of time in making out the annual returns.

5th. A REGISTRY BOOK.—This book is ruled in parallel columns, and headed exactly like the blank returns. In each column will be entered the date—day, month and year, as the events to be recorded, occur. None but Master Masons are entitled to registry, or lodge number, (2d column.) Hence none but names of Master Masons are entered in the register, and that must be done consecutively according to priority in the date of receiving the Master's degree or affiliation. The lodge number thus indicates the successive rank in membership of each individual, according to date—raising or affiliation. The column headed "Joined," is intended for the date of affiliation of those adjoining from other lodges.

This book is for entries by the secretary himself, and if he keeps a "convenience book," can be kept up regularly without the consumption of time.

Registers and convenience books are furnished by the Grand Lodge, at cost.

6th. BOOK OF BY-LAWS.—In this should be written the by-laws of the lodge. This book should be kept in the lodge room ready for the signatures of all brethren raised in or affiliating with the lodge, at the time of such action.

System and accuracy are almost synonymous, as one begets the other, and secretaries, with this series of lodge books, will find a saving of both time and labor.

#### ANNUAL RETURNS.

Many secretaries bestow an unnecessary amount of labor on the returns, of itself of not so much consequence, perhaps, but it imposes a vast amount of unnecessary labor upon the Grand Lodge "committee on returns of subordinate lodges," and also upon the Grand Secretary in recording. Returns are sent to the Grand Lodge that must have required days to make up, when the work actually required would not have taken an hour to copy from the register. Not one omission or inaccuracy need occur, if secretaries pay ordinary attention to their duties. With system all the work required of a secretary can be done during the hours of the communication. And to insure a faithful performance of their duties, the Grand Master would recommend to each subordinate lodge that they allow the secretary a certain fixed compensation.

Returns must be made out to the first day of January of each year and sent to the Grand Secretary, that he may examine them before the meeting of the Grand Lodge. Blanks will be furnished on application to the Grand Secretary.

The lodge register commences with the date of organization under charter; the first entries are the names of petitioners, and then the work done, entered and numbered according to priority of receiving the third degree.

The annual returns are copied from the lodge register. The first year all the names on the register, commencing with lodge No. 1, to January 1st, of the year, are included in the return, even if they have been previously reported, as U. D. returns are not registered. The next year commence with January 1st, and return *only the work of the year*, which includes all initiations, paasings, raisings, adjoinings, withdrawals, deaths, &c.

Names of Master Masons *once returned should not again be sent up*, unless the membership ceases; in that case *only* the

*name*, *Grand Lodge*, and *lodge number*, and *date* of the cessation of membership, in the appropriate column, are required. In the returns affixed to the names of Master Masons made, must be the date of initiating, passing or raising, even if the dates of initiating or passing have been previously returned. It takes but a moment for a secretary to do this, while copying from his register; if not done, the Grand Secretary is obliged to hunt up the dates from previous returns. Our lodges are now so numerous that looking up dates of past initiations or passings among the mass of returns, would occupy too much time, particularly as the trouble can be obviated by a moments labor below.

The Grand Lodge registry contains the names of over 7,000 Masons. The Grand Lodge numbers are fixed, never changed. A brother may dimit and adjoin another lodge, his Grand Lodge number remains the same; and in re-recording his name from his new lodge in the register, we must look back to find his Grand Lodge number. Hence the necessity of *affixing* to the names of affiliating brethren, the name, number, and location of the lodge in which initiated, and if formerly a member of any lodge in this jurisdiction, to state the fact, giving the name and number thus: "49; John Smith; 53; Merchant, Me.; Wilton; June 19, 1868; Washington, No. 8, N. Y.; Hope, 42, Minn." The Grand Secretary then refers to letter S, in the register, Hope, 42, and readily finds the Grand Lodge number of John Smith, checks it, and affixes it to the new registration; otherwise he has to look over the entire list of names beginning with S, numbering several hundred, to find whether John Smith has been previously registered.

Lodges are chargeable with dues for all its members, and will continue to be so charged until membership ceases, and the fact returned to the Grand Lodge. It is not sufficient to report five, (more or less,) withdrawn, &c., but the names, Grand Lodge and lodge number must be given, and the *date* of the occurrence.

The Grand Master urges upon secretaries to record the full name of all Masons hereafter made or affiliated. "J. Smith" may mean John, or Jacob, or Joseph, &c. The first name should in all cases, be given in full, not merely the initials. There are quite a number of J. Jones, J. Smith, &c., in the State. And



where dates are required, be particular as to *day, month* and *year*.

Masters of subordinate lodges *are charged to see* that the necessary books are had, and properly kept, and that the foregoing instructions are *strictly* complied with.

#### VOTING.

But three methods of voting are known in a Masonic lodge, viz. :

- 1st. The secret ballot.
- 2d. The uplifted right arm, or ancient sign ; and
- 3d. By calling the roll.

The first is used in acting on petitions and awarding punishment.

The second in the business of the lodge. And

The third when as directed by the Grand Lodge Constitution.

Divulging his ballot subjects a brother to lodge discipline ; *provided*, that a brother voting in the negative may, of his own volition, state his reasons for so doing ; but that had (if at all) better be done *before* than after a ballot.

Upon the rejection of a candidate, the W. . M. . shall permit no remarks to be made, except as in the above proviso.

It is not absolutely necessary to ballot upon an application on the same evening that the report is made. The W. . M. . may, in his discretion, or on the request of a member of the lodge, postpone the ballot until the next stated communication.

#### DIPLOMA DISTINGUISHED FROM DIMIT.

A diploma is an instrument made for preservation, and may be used as collateral evidence in proof of good standing, while living, and for the benefit of the family after the brother's decease. It should be signed by the three principal officers of the lodge, attested by the signature of the secretary and seal of the lodge ; and to which is attached a certificate of the Grand Secretary under the seal of the Grand Lodge.

A dimit is simply a receipt for moneys paid, and requires only the signature of the secretary and seal of the lodge.

#### THE PROPER OFFICER TO PRESENT AND PROSECUTE CHARGES FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

All charges for unmasonic conduct against a brother, must be in writing—provided it is proper to be written, and should clearly and distinctly state the offence or offences complained of, and



should be signed by the brother making the same. The charges should be given to the S.·. or J.·. W.·., whose duty it is to present said charges in proper form to the lodge, as prescribed in the rules governing " trials and its incidents," title 6, Grand Lodge Constitution.

All charges for unmasonic conduct, committed while the craft is at labor, should be presented by the S.·. W.·., and all charges for such conduct during the time the craft is at refreshment, should be presented by the J.·. W.·.:

#### THE PROPER TIME TO SIGN THE BY-LAWS.

Each subordinate lodge should have a book in which the by-laws of the lodges are neatly written. The by-laws are of no force unless approved by the Grand Master. And all amendments made to the by-laws, must be approved before they are of any validity.

The petitioner for degrees, or membership, is entitled to a copy of the by-laws. Our Grand Lodge Constitution provides that " none but Master Masons, and who have signed the by-laws, can be members of a subordinate lodge." The book of by-laws should be present at each meeting, to the end that those who have been elected to membership, or raised to the third degree, may have the opportunity to affix their signatures.

#### WHEN DISPENSATIONS EXPIRE.

Dispensations for lodges U.·. D.·. expire with the commencement of the session of the Grand Lodge ; and no work can be done, after a charter is granted, until the lodge is constituted, and its officers legally installed.

#### LODGE U.·. D.·. CANNOT ADMIT MEMBERS.

The officers of a lodge working under dispensation, cannot be installed. The powers and privileges of a lodge under dispensation are limited to those specifically named in the dispensation, and cannot affiliate members.

#### WHEN ELECTIONS CAN BE HELD.

Elections can only be held at the time prescribed by the Constitution or by-laws. For good cause stated, the Grand Master may permit a lodge to hold an election at some time other than that prescribed in the by-laws.

#### OBJECTION TO THE ADMISSION OF VISITORS.

A Master Mason within the body of a lodge of which he is a

member, has the right to object to the admission of a visiting brother, and may, or may not, at his own option, assign his reasons for so doing.

#### OBJECTION TO THE ADMISSION OF A MEMBER.

A brother may object to the admission of a member of his own lodge, but such objection imposes upon the lodge an absolute necessity to investigate the matter, and to visit the offending brother with Masonic discipline.

#### PUBLIC PROCESSIONS.

A lodge has no right to appear in a public procession without the permission of the Grand Master. This rule has been relaxed in this jurisdiction so far as to permit the burial of a brother without first obtaining such permission.

#### MEMBERS OF GRAND LODGE MUST WEAR THEIR JEWEL.

Not only the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, but the Ancient Regulations, require the representatives to the Grand Lodge to appear with their collar and jewel. This regulation has been neglected a few years past. It must be complied with for the future.

#### NOT TO LEAVE LODGE DURING SESSION.

Brethren should not leave the lodge until its close, without urgent necessity for so doing, remembering the ancient charge, "and not desert the Master until the work is finished."

#### NON-AFFILIATED MASONS AMENABLE.

Every Mason residing within the jurisdiction of a lodge, is amenable to it for his Masonic conduct. Hence a non-affiliated Mason can be dealt with for violation of Masonic polity the same as a member of the particular lodge under whose jurisdiction he resides, or is temporarily sojourning.

#### CONSTITUTIONS TO BE READ.

In conclusion, the Grand Master urges upon the Masters of the lodges, not only the propriety, but necessity, of familiarizing the brethren with the laws of Masonry, and to that end recommends that the "Ancient Charges" be read at each initiation, as it was done in days of yore, and that the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be read at least quarterly.